

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Editorial and Executive Office: 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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## Rivers of Living Water

How the Believer Becomes a Blessing

By the late Dr. James M. Gray  
Long president Moody Bible Institute

"In the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying: If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. But this spake he of the Spirit which they that believe on him should receive; for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified."—John 7:37-39.

Let me speak first to you of this feast. It was the Feast of Tabernacles, and came in the fall of the year, about our October. The Jews were an agricultural people, and the harvest was now garnered, and a time of rest and recreation and gladness had come. The men were required to go up to Jerusalem at this feast, which commemorated the time, fifteen hundred years before, when their ancestors, not yet welded into a nation, were journeying in the wilderness and dwelling temporarily in tabernacles or tents on their way to Canaan. While the men only were required to go up, yet many brought their women with them, their wives and children, to partake of the social and religious festivities of the time. There were no locomotives in those days, no trolley cars, no stage coaches nor omnibuses, no farm wagons and carryalls, and the people walked. The older and the feeble might ride on asses or donkeys, but for the most part they walked, no matter how long the journey or how much time it took.

Picture the happy scene. From every hamlet, village and town, the people are gathering out into the great highway leading to Mount Zion. They have not met before for months or perhaps a year. The men are discussing politics and the crops, the women are enjoying their neighborly gossip, the children are romping in the way, the young men and maidens are making love, and God looks down upon it all in gracious favor, for He has planned it all, and desires His people to be happy, only that they be happy in Him.

The feast lasts a week—a week of eight days—and during this whole time the people are living in the open. They are dwelling in booths made of boughs and branches of the trees. They are having a social time, and yet it is a religious time. The temple is the great centre of attraction. The priests and the Levites are continually occupied in presenting the people's offerings and in the public worship of God. The singing of glad songs and the sweet sounds of the instruments of music fill the air.

But the great day of the feast is the last day. A unique ceremony takes place on this day. It takes place, perhaps, on each day, but there are special features connected with it on this day. The priests and Levites form in grand procession ("the former carrying golden vessels in their hands, and chanting the psalms of Zion and playing on the instruments of music") and march to the historic pool of Siloam. There they fill the vessels with its sacred water, and return in the same manner to the temple court. And now, at a given signal, the contents of the vessels are poured out upon the brazen altar, to the accompaniment of such a shout

of exultation as at no other time and no other place was ever heard.

### The Significance of the Transaction

But what is the significance of this transaction, or what meaning does it bear? We must go back seven hundred years to the prophet Isaiah to find out. The people were iniquitous and living in disobedience to God, experiencing all the suffering and sorrow incident to such a course. But God had graciously promised them a revival, saying by the prophet:

"I will pour water upon him" (Continued on page 6)

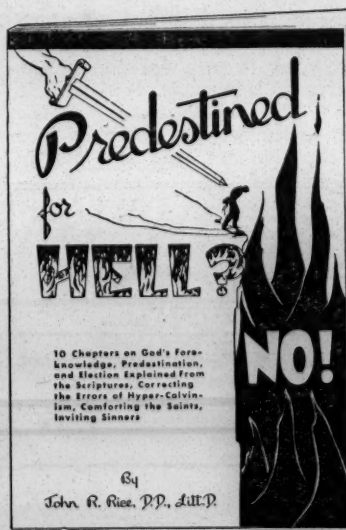
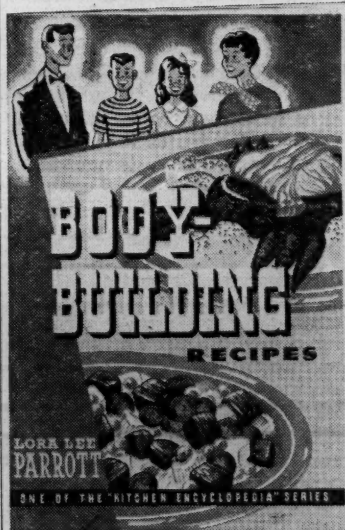
## Peter Restored From Backsliding

By Evangelist John R. Rice

Last week we published the sad story of how Peter fell into sin and broke fellowship and quit the ministry and what led to his backsliding. But in John 21 we have the story of Christ bringing Peter back into service.

"Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore; but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes. As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught. Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three; and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then cometh, and taketh

bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. This is now the third time that Jesus shewed (Continued on page 8)



## FREE During Letter Month

You may have either of the above pictured books free, your choice, with each cash subscription, book order. *Predestined for Hell? No!* by Editor John R. Rice has 103 pages, ten chapters, is a warm, scriptural, convincing answer to the heresy of hyper-Calvinism. It sells for 75c. *Body-Building Recipes* has a beautiful four-color cover, size 6 x 9, has nearly two hundred recipes, interspersed with fine devotional thoughts and quotations from famous preachers, etc. Remember, be sure to ask for one of these booklets free with every subscription sent, every book order, every gift sent during Letter Month. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

### Prize Winner in Annual Sword Evangelistic Sermon Contest

## Putting Your Wages Into a Bag With Holes

By Evangelist John Linton  
328 Belle Isle View, Riverside, Windsor, Canada

"He that earneth wages, earneth wages to put into a bag with holes."—Haggai 1:6.

You may have seen a man going up to another on the street, taking him by the lapel of his coat and, looking into his eyes, he earnestly addresses his friend. That is what I would like to do with you, my friend—the unsaved man or woman now reading this message. Won't you sit down and let me reason with you concerning the most important matter you could ever consider?

I will try not to overurge you, for if you ever come to Christ it must be of your own free will. I won't browbeat you. I will appeal to your intellect and conscience, as well as to your emotions, as God shall help me. I sincerely assure you I have prayed much

about this message and for those who will read it. And if you are led of God at the end of this message to do what I will ask you to do, then I can assure you with all my heart you will have only one regret, and that is that you did not do it sooner.

Consider, then, with me the striking figure my text uses to describe the condition and conduct of people in a bygone day, "He that earneth wages, earneth wages to put into a bag with holes."

When the Jews of the Captivity were restored to their land, they found the Temple in ruins and began to rebuild as God commanded them. But they soon tired of this and began to neglect God's house for the building and orna-



Dr. John Linton

menting of their own houses. Soon the Temple was forgotten while (Continued on page 7)

## Here Comes Sword Annual LETTER MONTH

Big Bargains, Free Gifts, Prizes!  
We Want Thousands of Letters  
During March

By the Editor

The biggest event of every day at the Sword of the Lord office is the bringing in of the mail. Nearly all our subscriptions, nearly all our distribution of gospel literature, nearly all our gifts to help get out the Gospel, nearly all of our comments, nearly all of our encouragement comes through the mail!

So we have an annual Letter Month when we encourage every subscriber and reader to write THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Give us the bouquets and the brickbats. Tell us of your gratitude and your gripes. Tell who was saved through our literature, tell what preacher's ministry was saved through THE SWORD OF THE LORD, tell who was delivered from modernism or false cults. Tell who became a soul winner.

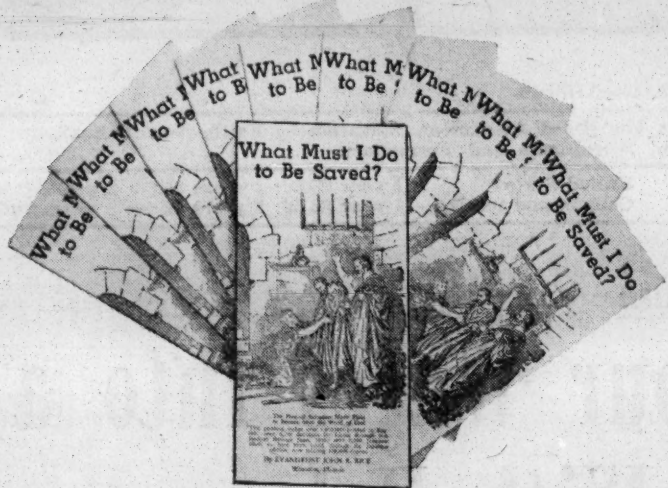
Everywhere I go people come to tell me that they were saved through THE SWORD OF THE LORD. In North Carolina the other day a woman with glad face and misty eyes told me how she was saved through THE SWORD OF THE LORD in 1911! But what a long time to wait to tell me!

Frankly, we want to know what articles, sermons, Bible studies, testimonies in THE SWORD OF THE LORD were a blessing to you so we will know what is needed. We want to know how God is blessing THE SWORD. We want your counsel, and, if it comes in Jesus' name and in Christian spirit, your criticism.

So beginning the day you read (Continued on page 12)



# Soul-Winner's Special Offer



**Ten Copies of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Booklet Free If You Will Use As Directed.**

**\$1.00 per Hundred, Plus 15c Postage and Packing, for Other Copies of the Booklet for Anybody, Any Quantity.**

**Single Copy Free on Request to Anybody Who Wishes It.**

By the Editor

About twenty-seven years ago the Lord led Evangelist John R. Rice to write the sermon, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" It was published in a national magazine. Then mimeographed copies were published and scattered widely. It resulted in so many people being saved that we were encouraged to put it in booklet form. Since that time, perhaps 13 or 14 million copies have been published in some twenty-four languages, going around the world and leading to tens of thousands of conversions. We have received about 7,000 letters from people who say they found Christ through the edition printed in English. Thousands more have claimed the Saviour through the Japanese edition, and editions in other foreign countries.

This little booklet is pocket-size, has twenty-four pages, is attractively printed. It makes plain the plan of salvation from the Word of God. It answers objections. It uses many, many Scriptures. For every thousand copies published and spread in any fashion we hear from some souls being saved. Where Christians take the matter to heart and accompany the distribution with personal work, then we find many, many more are saved. So, in order to try to win a thousand souls or more during March Letter Month, we make special offers on this booklet.

**Ten Copies Free If You Will Promise to Use According to These Simple Rules**

We will mail ten copies to you, postpaid, free:

1. If you will write to us and promise definitely that you will get these ten copies out in ten days to people who are unsaved or unsure of salvation;

2. If you will secure from everyone a promise to read the book within the next twenty-four hours;

3. If you will then check up on these people in a day or two and report to us your results.

Do not ask for these ten booklets free or any other quantity free just saying that you will "use them prayerfully." You go ahead and pray, but unless you definitely promise to follow the plan as directed and report to us, then pay for the booklets yourself.

We know, beyond any doubt, that this much earnest interest by people who really want to win souls will get people saved. If you will help us, then write us plainly promising to get them out in ten days, to people either unsaved or not sure of salvation, and promising that you will check up on them and report to us again about the results.

We suggest that in every case you tell people that you have promised to get them out, and that you want a report from them after they have read it, and call their attention to the decision form on page twenty-three which has helped crystalize the matter and bring it to a decision in the hearts of thousands. Will you do this? Then write today for the ten copies we are offering free to soul-winners, and say plainly

## THE EDITOR'S Notes by John R. Rice

February 1-6, we had busy and blessed days at Miller Road Baptist Church, Garland, Texas. Crowds were large. One day we counted those in the morning service and there were over three hundred on a week-day morning. Evening services the crowds ran, I suppose, from 1,000 to 1,400. We counted over 220 preachers present in the conference, from all over Texas, from Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, and other states.

I think the program was about the strongest that I have ever known in a conference, with Dr. Lee Roberson of Chattanooga; Dr. Tom Malone of Pontiac, Michigan; Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., of Greenville, South Carolina; Dr. Myron T. Cedarholm, director of Conservative Baptist Association, from Chicago; Evangelist Walt Handford (who spoke one time and helped in other duties), and this editor. Music was led by Jim Lyons of Miller Road Church, with special music from many sources. This editor and daughter, Grace Rice MacMullen, sang duets. Jim Ponder, a fine ladies' trio, a famous men's trio, and two male quartets were a blessing.

Only Heaven will show the holy vows, the life-transforming decisions, the new inspiration which God gave us in the meetings. Pastor Jack Hyles enlivened all the proceedings, was the most gracious host. Some ninety-seven

that you will get them out in ten days to unsaved or uncertain of salvation, that you will check up on them and send us a report.

**Special Half-Price Offer: \$1 per Hundred, in Any Quantity, for Soul-Winners**

We have ordered a quarter million copies for this Letter Month sale. Now is the time to stock up. The regular price is \$2 per hundred. Some companies reprint the booklet and charge 4c each or 5c each. But we are cutting the price to \$1 per hundred, plus 15c per hundred for postage and packing during Letter Month sale. We will lose a little money on this, but we will not lose as much as if we were giving them free as we do give them free to thousands. So order as many as you wish for churches, for those who work in jails and penitentiaries, for rescue missions, now while you can get them \$1 per hundred, \$10 per thousand, plus 15c per hundred for postage and packing.

**Single Copy of This God-Blessed Booklet Full of Soul-Winning Scriptures Free to Anyone**

We will be glad to send a single copy of the booklet "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" free, postpaid, to anyone who writes for it. Each one write for himself, do not write for others. But ask for a copy of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" and tell us you will read it.

We are anxious to get out thousands and thousands of copies of this booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" during March. The special offer is a real opportunity. If you are a soul winner or if you would like to try to win souls, here is a blessed opening and opportunity which God gives you. We are so glad that many can now try out at soul winning and begin the first steps that may lead to a life of soul-winning power and joy.

We urge everyone who will to write for ten copies now, give them out in ten days, in each case check up on the reader and then report to us on the results of your effort.

This is not hard. If you mean business, this is very little to do for Jesus Christ. And we make the offer simply to help you win souls. Will you try it?

Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois, and make your order explicit. And of course you will not make a promise unless you will keep it.

Soul-winners, write today.

—The End—

were present at a ministers' banquet.

### 268 Professions of Faith in Twelve Days!

On the Monday preceding the conference, Pastor Jack Hyles and the Miller Road Baptist Church began an intensive period of personal soul winning. On Sunday morning, February 1, there were 14 professions of faith. Sunday night this editor preached on Hell and there were 8 or 10 more. But day after day, the people of God went far and near winning souls to Christ. Three evening services of the conference closed with public baptizings of those converted, some of them that day. A total of 268 professions of faith in the twelve days from Monday, January 26, through Friday, February 6—in twelve days there were 268 professions of faith!

One dear woman who won her first soul on January 17 had won twelve by the close of the conference! One carpenter, a godly man who had been only to the fifth grade, won eleven souls during the eight days of the conference. There was a revival atmosphere all through the blessed conference. Many solemnly vowed in public to start family altars. Others promised God publicly they would undertake to win a soul within the next seven days. Many preachers with tears came forward to offer themselves to suffer for Jesus, to stand true at any cost for Christ and the Bible and soul winning.

### A Good Start at Springfield, Missouri

Saturday morning we were up at 5:30. Evangelist Walt Handford had left Thursday afternoon to pick up his wife, Libby Rice Handford, and the babies at Newton, Kansas, where they had gone on the train to meet him. Then he drove on to Craig, Colorado, to begin revival services Sunday.

Mrs. Grace Rice MacMullen, who had been singing in the conference, spent an extra day in Dallas visiting with old friends. Mrs. Rice and I and Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., were up by 5:30 Saturday morning; Brother Jack Hyles took us to our separate planes. Dr. Jones went to his engagement leaving at 7:15, and Mrs. Rice and I caught a plane to Springfield, Missouri.

I am speaking in eight days of revival services in the Southside Baptist Church, Rev. Fred Neidy, pastor. There were 454 in Sunday School this morning. I preached on "The Banquet Invitation." Five people came forward to trust Christ and claim Him openly. There was a blessed moving of the Spirit of God upon the people. Mrs. Rice is cooking for me in a little efficiency motel apartment. The church graciously furnished a car for us to drive. Monday and Tuesday we will have two days intensive Bible conference on revival and soul winning, assisted by Dr. Noel Smith, editor of the *Baptist Bible Tribune*, and preachers are expected from all over the state. But I continue night after night for eight days of revival effort. I trust that God will give a gracious revival here.

### Old Friends at Springfield

In the spring of 1949, I held a city-wide revival campaign in Springfield. Many were saved. And naturally we have here many friends.

On the plane yesterday we were greeted by Brother Earl Smith, song leader, for the High Street Baptist Church here, of which Brother Bill Dowell is pastor. He was returning from services in El Paso and will lead the singing for us here this week in the Southside Baptist Church. His family took us to our apartment.

We were glad to learn that the great High Street Baptist Church averaged 2,564 in Sunday School attendance through the entire year 1958. Hundreds were saved and baptized. God continues to bless the ministry of that strong, faithful preacher, Dr. Bill Dowell.

Today, Sunday, after the morning service, we met by appointment with an old friend, Evangelist Oscar Wells, who is just closing a week of revival services with Pastor Denver Moore of the Division Street Baptist Church in Springfield. Last Sunday this struggling church had seventy-

four in Sunday School. This morning they had 178, a gain of 102! Evangelist Oscar Wells and the pastor had done intensive visitation, and God had greatly blessed and encouraged the church and pastor.

Here too we met old friends Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hawkins, a Christian miller and soul winner, whom we have loved well these years since the big tent campaign nine years ago. God has used him to win many hundreds of souls. We had dinner with Fred and Annie last night, will see much of them this week, and rejoice in their friendship and Christian fellowship, and so with many others of our friends from the blessed revival nine years ago.

### Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, Conference Fourth of July Week

This year we will have only one Sword of the Lord conference at Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, according to present plans. The dates are Monday, June 29, through Sunday, July 5. We are already planning the best conference we have ever had. Speakers already promised are Rev. Jack Hyles of Miller Road Church, Garland, Texas; Dr. Tom Malone, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pontiac, and president of the Midwestern Baptist Seminary; and my brother, Dr. Bill Rice, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

I hope that many will make plans now to spend the Fourth of July week at Lake Louise. Again we plan to pay half the room and board bill for every preacher who wishes to come and stay in the dormitory at the big Hotel Lake Louise. We hope that many a pastor who might feel unable to pay for air-conditioned private room and bath, but could pay half of the bill for dormitory space and meals, will come. Ministerial students, pastors of small churches, missionaries and evangelists are especially invited. We hope also to have some very happy features for young people at this wonderful Christian vacation resort in the foothills of North Georgia and on beautiful Lake Louise nestled among the pine trees. Great spiritual blessings! Wonderful vacation! Swimming (separate bathing beaches for men and women), boating, fishing, water skiing, tennis, street meetings, house-to-house soul winning, sweetest Christian fellowship. Save vacation dates now for June 29 to July 5 if possible.

### I Heard Myself on Radio Today!

This is Sunday, February 8. But before we left Wheaton we prepared the half-hour radio broadcast, "The Voice of Revival." The radio broadcast tapes were mailed to the radio stations on which we are heard each Sunday. So today I came back and at 2:00 I heard "The Voice of Revival" broadcast. How sweet the singing of the beautiful choir, and Mrs. Nill's solo, and Joanna and Joy's sweet voices in duet! And I prayed earnestly, with deep moving of soul, as I listened to my own plea for Christians to remove the stumbling blocks to prayer and to clear the way to get answers from Heaven. Oh, that God will send a great revival among Christians in America, and may He use "The Voice of Revival" broadcast to help.

I hope you heard the broadcast too. Nearly everybody in America can hear it on some of the stations listed. Will you try and see? And write to us.

I do not need to tell you that we cannot carry on these broadcasts without help from God's people. Thank God, He has helped us pay for the first month's broadcasts. But only regular gifts from regular listeners can pay the bills, and only a great volume of prayer by believing Christians can make the program the blessing that it ought to be to America. Please listen and pray and write us. Address "The Voice of Revival" Broadcast, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

### "Everyone Who Has Been Helped by THE SWORD Should Help THE SWORD"

Here is a motto for the Sword Letter Month. Let me say it again. "Everyone who has been helped

(Continued on page 4)



AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE, D.D., LittD., Editor and publisher  
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# Kids' Corner

By Aunt Joy

## HOW THE WORLD WAS MADE

Genesis 1:1—2:24

Long, long ago there was no world at all. There was no sun to shine, no stars to twinkle, no moonbeams to play through the night shadows. But even then there was God; for He has always been the same unchanging God.

Then, at the beginning of time, God made the world. At first water covered everything, and darkness was everywhere. What a strange, unfriendly world this must have been! But God planned to make it beautiful, so He said, "Let there be light." He called the light Day and the darkness He called Night. This was the first day of time.

On the second day God made the beautiful blue sky and placed in it clouds to carry the moisture. He called the sky Heaven.

The third day God said, "Let the waters be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear." He called the waters Seas and the dry land Earth. The whole earth was bare—no grasses, flowers, or trees. So God caused a carpet of grass to grow and beautiful flowers to spring up from the earth. He made the trees and plants. God knew His work was good.

But God had more plans for His world. On the fourth day He made the sun, the moon, and the stars. The sun was to rule the day, and the moon the night.

Next, God began to create living creatures. He made all kinds of fish to swim about in the seas, and birds of every description to fly in the sky. The fifth day passed, and the world had become a better place.

It was on the sixth day that God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures." Living things appeared in the woods, on the plains, in the air and sea.

Still this was a strange world, for there were no people in it. There was not a home anywhere—not a man, woman, or little child. What a very strange world indeed! But God had not yet finished creating His wonderful world. He planned to have people live on the earth, enjoy its beauties, and take care of it. They would know who had made all these things. More than that, they would be able to love and worship Him.

So it was that God made the first man. Out of the dust of the earth He made the body, then He breathed into that body the breath of life. Man became a living soul.

God called the first man Adam. Adam was to name the birds and animals. It was his work to rule over all other living creatures.

Now Adam needed a helper. God said, "It is not good that man should be alone. I will make him a helpmeet." God made Adam a wife, and Adam loved her deeply. He called his wife Eve.

When the sixth day ended, God had made the world and placed everything in it just as He had planned. On the seventh day God rested.

(Used by permission. From the book, *EGERMEIER'S BIBLE STORY BOOK*, by Elsie E. Egermeier. The Warner Press, Anderson, Indiana. Deluxe edition, \$5.50; standard edition, \$3.95.)

## Enter This Coloring Contest!

ATTENTION! Here is a chance for you to win a beautiful coloring book. All you have to do is color the picture of the Garden of Eden in this issue and mail it to me. There will be twelve big 60c coloring books given for the best twelve pictures I receive by March 9. So sit down right now. Color this picture very neatly, fill in your name, age, and address, and mail to Aunt Joy, Kids Corner, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois. Any boy or girl from 4 to 15 may enter, so get busy. By the way, the last

coloring contest winners were all girls! I know you boys can color, too. Enter this contest and don't disappoint me.

## The Book That Wasn't Right

As the children walked home from school together they talked about what they had read in their science book and what the teacher had said.

Their science book had said some very strange things. It said that nobody knew how the first person became alive. It said that millions and millions of years ago, somewhere on the edge of some ocean, all of a sudden a little speck of life began. As more mil-

The teacher smiled. "Does anyone want to answer that question?" she asked.

Harold put up his hand. "All right," said the teacher, "you tell us."

Harold said, "God made Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden of Eden. He had made Adam from the dust of the ground and had made Eve from one of Adam's ribs."

"That is what the Bible says, isn't it, Harold? Now, children, there are many people who do not believe the Bible, and so they do not know how the first man became alive."

"Do you believe the Bible?" the children asked the teacher.

"Well," said the teacher, "I don't know. I'm not a Christian, but I think that probably God made Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden of Eden, just as Harold said; but I don't know. Sometimes I think it didn't happen that way."

That night Harold told his father about what happened at school. "I thought everybody believed the Bible," Harold said.

"Oh, no," said Father, "lots of people don't; there are lots of people who are not Christians and don't have the Lord Jesus as their Saviour."

"If so many people don't think



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET OR BOX \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

(please print plainly)

lions of years went by, that little speck of life grew bigger and bigger, and divided into many different kinds of birds and animals. Finally after millions of years more, some of the animals began to look more and more like men; and finally one became the first human being. Some day, the book had said, it is probable that people will not look like they do now, but will be stronger and more beautiful and more intelligent.

The children were quite surprised when they read this in their science book. They knew that this was not what the Bible said.

The teacher could tell that they were surprised, and she said: "Children, you might as well learn now that books are not always right. Don't believe everything you read. Books are often written by men and women who know a great deal, but they do not know everything. They do not know how men and women first came to be. The person who wrote this book has written down what he guesses. He thinks that is how it happened, but he does not know."

"Does anyone know how it happened?" Ben wanted to know.

the Bible is true, how can we know it is?" Harold asked.

"There are several ways," Father said. "For one thing, because it is a book that tells about many things that were going to happen, and hundreds of years later did happen. The Bible wouldn't have known these things were going to happen unless God wrote it. God made Adam, and He tells us about it in the Bible."

"Another way we know the Bible is true is that it is not like an ordinary book. It is a miracle Book and it changes people's lives. People who have been very bad read the Bible and hear about the Lord Jesus, then they become good. No other book is able to make people change that way, at least not for very long."

Harold said, "Then the science books aren't always right, and the teachers aren't always right; but the Bible is."

"Yes," said Father; "remember that as long as you live."

1. Should we believe everything we read in books?
2. What is the only Book we can believe? Why?

## Radio Appeal

For the "Voice of Revival" nation-wide radio broadcast with Editor John R. Rice preaching and music by "Voice of Revival" Choir, there is an urgent need. We must have about \$1,000 a week to pay broadcast expenses. When this is written we have less than enough to pay for two weeks' broadcasts in February. Hundreds of letters indicate God is blessing multitudes through this broadcast. This is a work of faith. There is no way to pay these bills but by the love-gifts of God's people. Will you rush your gifts to

VOICE OF REVIVAL

Box 420

Wheaton, Illinois

## Here's How It Happened

"April 25, 1958

"Champaign, Illinois

"Dear Brother Rice,

"I thought that just a name isn't right for such a great event in my life. I want you to know a bit more about myself, so in your prayers you may remember me.

"I am a freshman in college this year, am 18 and very interested in flying. My home is in Downers Grove and I have been attending the Baptist church there for the past four years. While attending this church I have always claimed to be a Christian. The reason for this was so that my friends wouldn't 'look down upon me.' In all of my friends I noticed something they had that I didn't have and now I've found it—the Lord and Saviour, our Jesus Christ.

"In the past I have prayed the Lord would make me a Christian; now I've found He doesn't make a Christian. You become a Christian through faith and believing.

"Tonight I prayed for the first time, it seems. My thoughts just flowed from my mind. In the past, whenever I have prayed my thoughts were never clear and my prayers were not from the heart.

"At Christmastime when I was home, I met a girl who attends the Baptist Church. She is a Christian and it is through her I received your tract, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?'

"When we first met I told her I was a Christian, as I did everyone else. I told her about my roommate who is a non-Christian, a Catholic by birth but never attends any church. She sent me your tract to give to my roommate, and suggested I read it first in case my roommate would ask any questions pertaining to it.

"Last week-end Carol came

down here for a couple of days. While we were together I told her of my problem in prayer. I think she has known all along that I wasn't a Christian. The reason I say this is because of one thing she said, 'Maybe you're a Christian by principle, but have never actually accepted the Lord for your own personal Saviour.' I thank the Lord for Carol, for if it hadn't been for her, I would not be a Christian now. And I thank the Lord for you and your tract which she sent me.

"In your prayer for me I would also like you to add a prayer for my roommate, B—— K——, so that he may receive the same peace of mind and joy that I have received.

"Is there any possibility of Carol and myself meeting with you? Anytime that would meet with your convenience would be fine with us.

"Today I received a book from Carol of yours entitled *Prayer, Asking and Receiving*. Thank you for the start of my new life that I have found."

(Signed) K—— P——

The Rev. W. Howells once said the best way to settle a quarrel was to "let the innocent forgive the guilty." The Rev. John Clark of Frome was asked one day how he kept from being involved in quarrels. He answered, "By letting the angry person always have the quarrel to himself."

## Bullet Pencil Free to Boys and Girls

To every boy and girl who writes a letter to Aunt Joy during Letter Month, we will send free a "bullet" pencil. This 4½ inch pencil is in a bullet-like case with the Lord's Prayer printed in blue. Write a letter to Aunt Joy during March and ENCLOSE A 4c STAMP for postage and handling. Address Aunt Joy, Kids Corner, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

## Dr. Bob Jones SAYS:



I have just received a letter from an evangelist who is a graduate of Bob Jones University, and I quote from that letter: "I have been out in the field for five years since my graduation. I was not an outstanding student, but it will be impossible for me to pay the University for what it has meant to me. I have found out by experience some of the things you have warned us about. I have had to stand up and be counted at every turn in the road." This evangelist goes on to declare his loyalty to the Word of God and to express determination not to compromise with the religious liberals or compromise in any other way.

If you friends could see the letters that we receive and know just what God is doing through Bob Jones University and its stu-

dents, you would understand why we keep on keeping on standing true in spite of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Won't you Christians please pray that God will give us the strength and grace we need to stand in this day of compromise? Won't you please help us contact the right kind of students? Remember, we do not have any problem getting students, but we want to select students who can be trained for leadership in the different walks of life. Please also invest some of the Lord's money in the work we are doing here. Thank you, and God bless you.

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BOB JONES UNIVERSITY  
GREENVILLE, S. C.

(Advertisement)





## Janz Team Returns to Ruhr Area 20,000 in Attendance

In June 1958 the Janz Evangelistic Team conducted a four-week campaign in the heart of the Ruhr in Germany. Many thousands attended the services and hundreds came to a saving knowledge of Christ. Recently the Janz Team returned to the Ruhr for a Sunday afternoon in the large new Gruga auditorium in Essen (note photo). Some 20,000 attended the two consecutive rallies on the Sunday afternoon. Nearly 200 responded to the gospel invitation. In 1959 the Team is scheduled to conduct campaigns in Frankfurt, Germany, and in Bern, Switzerland. Frankfurt is the most Americanized city in Germany, and probably one of the most sinful. Bern is the capital city of Switzerland, and a real revival here could have its effect on the entire country.

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## INCIDENTS and Illustrations

By  
Evangelist Robert L. Sumner  
Contributing Editor

### Possibilities of Prohibition

Opponents of prohibition legislation have long and loudly proclaimed that prohibition could never work in America because it is impossible to change human nature. However, a leading Ford Motor Company executive, while not referring even remotely to the prohibition issue, put his finger upon the principle in point recently at a "Brotherhood" dinner in Detroit. William T. Gossett, a Ford vice president and general counsel, told the 700 guests: "Although you cannot legislate a change in human nature, you can bring about a change in human conduct."



That is the issue exactly!

He noted also that a law must be "fairly and impartially administered" in order to be effective. Herein was the fault behind the failure of the ill-fated eighteenth amendment since even the booze-befuddled advocates of legalized prohibition law was never "fairly and impartially administered." Prohibition cannot change human nature—only the dynamic power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ can do that—but it can bring about a change in human conduct. It can put shoes on bare feet, bread on barren tables, decent clothing on shivering bodies, and restore respectability in the homes of literally tens of thousands where fear, want, shame and hatred now reign unchallenged.

"CENSURE FROM THE BAD IS TRUE PRAISE"—C. H. Spurgeon.

### Is He Happy?

A few weeks ago, Frank Blanchard, a seventy-three-year-old farmer of Powersville, Missouri, suffered a heart attack on the dance floor while square dancing. Warned by his doctor that he would have to quit, Blanchard refused, telling the physician, "If I die on the dance floor, I'll be happy." Two days later, on the dance floor, the widower collapsed and died. He got his wish to die dancing!

However, whether he is happy is an unreachable secret hidden behind the eternal curtain and depends entirely upon whether he died saved or lost. If he died saved, which on the surface seems improbable, his wish was fulfilled and he is now "with Christ" in a "far better" (Phil. 1:23) circumstance than mere mortals can imagine. However, if he had never been born again, his situation is far from joyous since it is identical with the man described by Jesus in Luke 16:23, who, "in hell . . . lift up his eyes, being in torments."

The saved will be happy no matter how or when they die. The lost will be sad regardless of the circumstances surrounding their departure. What will be your state five seconds after death?

"IF I HAD THE TRUMPET OF GOD, AND COULD SPEAK TO EVERY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER IN AMERICA, I WOULD PLEAD WITH EACH ONE TO LEAD AT LEAST ONE SOUL TO CHRIST THIS YEAR!"  
—D. L. Moody

### Love or Idolatry?

Last Thanksgiving Day, Rev.

## The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 2)

by THE SWORD should help THE SWORD." It puts in other words a paraphrase of the Scripture in Galatians 6:6, "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Another that says the same thing is I Corinthians 9:11: "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?"

Another Scripture that says the same thing is "Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn" (I Cor. 9:9). And again the Scripture says, "Who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock?" (I Cor. 9:7). So it is obvious that to be a good Christian, "everyone who has been helped by THE SWORD should help THE SWORD." Will you remember that this Letter Month? Then renew your own subscription. Send subscriptions to others who ought to have this paper. Buy good books or send a gift to help along the work of our Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund or "The Voice of Revival" broadcast or our free literature fund which reaches souls around the world. Or send large gifts, if possible, for permanent "Investment Evangelism" to pay off long-term loans and make the Sword of the Lord independent.

Moses cried out, "Who is on the Lord's side? let him come unto me." We say the same thing. If you are on the Lord's side, if you believe what THE SWORD OF THE LORD stands for as plainly stated on the front page of every issue for twenty-four years, if you are for soul winning and revival after the Bible pattern, if you are against modernism and formalism

Bennie Morris conducted the first services for a new church in Phoenix, Arizona. In the congregation were many of the parishioners from his former congregation at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It seems that Mr. Morris, who pastored the Gospel Chapel at Milwaukee for fifteen years, decided to go to Phoenix to begin a new work in that city. The members of his Wisconsin church, numbering about 90, decided to liquidate the church property, sell their homes, quit their jobs, and move to Arizona with Mr. Morris. Out of the entire congregation, only one member remained in Milwaukee—a lady whose husband was not a member of the assembly. The group sold their church property for \$36,000, using \$12,000 of it to pay off a mortgage and appropriating the remainder for moving expenses and beginning the church in Phoenix.

Unusual? Unquestionably, yes!

Sensible and spiritual? Unquestionably, no!

Christians are commanded by the testimony of sacred writ to love and respect those placed over them in spiritual authority and leadership. However, the spirit of the Milwaukee congregation appears to be much more than that of idolatry than it does love. The devotion they have manifested toward Pastor Morris is that which should be reserved for the One who bought them with His own precious blood. "The Lord whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God" (Exod. 34:14) and He has warned, "I am the Lord: that is my name and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images" (Isa. 42:8).

Would to God that the congregations of our churches might be as willing to sell their homes, quit their jobs or make other such sacrifices for the honor and glory of Jesus Christ! The spirit of sacrifice on the part of the Milwaukee congregation is most commendable—but it is directed in the wrong place and to the wrong personality. Remember, "According as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord" (I Cor. 1:31).

Evangelist Sumner can be seen and heard:

Thru March 1:  
Riverdale Baptist Church  
Flint, Michigan

March 8-22:  
Berean Baptist Church  
1574 Coit Avenue, N. E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

and worldliness and believe in saying so, if you want to help us get out the Gospel around the world, then write us your letter for Letter Month, write your "thank you." Give us some encouragement. Send a subscription. And God bless everyone who stands by us to help make THE SWORD what it ought to be.

### We Plead for Your Prayers

I have a very strenuous schedule. I beg readers to pray that God will uphold me, and give special strength of body, will give daily courage and joy, and breathe upon me with the Holy Spirit in power that I may do the work He has for me to do. Oh, specially may God give me grace to make THE SWORD OF THE LORD the blessing to these 22,000 preachers and tens of thousands of other families who take THE SWORD in every state in the Union and in ninety foreign countries. May God give me special grace and power in "The Voice of Revival" nation-wide radio broadcast!

## Let's talk about YOUTH!



### Down to Earth Talks with

George F. Santa

### I PREDICT . . .

that a vast army, now in training, will one day soon take over control of this beloved land of ours. Its leaders will take over all high government positions—political, military and civilian. They will command the top posts in industry, education, transportation, utilities—yes, and even our churches. No high level position will escape their control. Our very lives will be in their hands.

I speak of the army of YOUTH.

You and I are deciding at this moment whether they will be men of God or enemies of Christ and all that we hold dear. The great majority of these are not being reached for Christ. An increasing number roam the streets, seeking pleasure and thrills, and the rise in juvenile crimes is terrifying.

BUT, there is an answer! . . . a Christ-centered youth program in the local church. For information about youth meetings that click, that attract unsaved youth of the community to your youth group and to your church, write for FREE SAMPLE. My address is: GEORGE F. SANTA, Box 413-B, Redondo Beach, California

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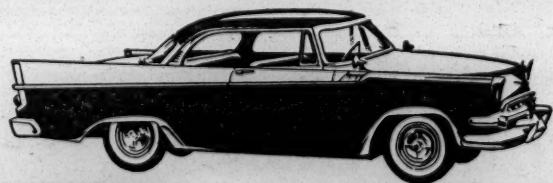
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# SEX

## and the Bible



By Jack Wyrzten, Director  
Word of Life Fellowship, Box 511, New York 8, New York

**23 short, burning chapters for young people and adults. Warning and instruction; frank, scriptural, reverent, life-changing. Here given in six parts.**

### 3. Sex Is Not Sinful

Every living thing in the universe owes its life to the principle of sex. Flowers . . . animals . . . human beings, depend upon the uniting of the male and the female. This is part of the plan of Almighty God. God's first command to man was, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth" (Gen. 1:28). Reproduction, thus ordained, has nothing to do with sin because God said this to Adam before he had committed any sin. God established sex in the marriage relationship before sin ever came into the world, so it cannot have anything to do with sin.

The record of God's creation of woman and the foundation of marriage is sublime: "And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him an help-meet for him" (Gen. 2:18).

That's a wonderful ideal for a man and woman. Eve was created to be not a hindrance, but a help-meet. Her divine purpose reminds me of the thousands of women who quietly but courageously create a home background which enables a man to be at his best. A wife's gracious help has caused a famous man to acknowledge, "I couldn't have accomplished anything without my wife's help." Such a wife is a help-meet. Happiness in marriage is based, not upon the woman being the same as the man, but upon her being one in whom he finds his counterpart, or as the Syriac translation of the Bible says, "a helper similar to him."

After telling the type of woman God intended to create, Scripture says:

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs [that is, flank or side] and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed (Gen. 2:21-25).

That is God's ideal for young men and women, to find one mate and stay together. It has been well said that a truly happy marriage is one in which a woman gives the best years of her life to the man who has made them the best.

The Bible is replete with advice for a happy marriage, and says, "Rejoice with the wife of thy youth" (Prov. 5:18). This verse refers to the physical side of love, proving that sex in itself is not sinful. The Bible says, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing [or good fortune, as another translation gives it], and obtaineth favour of the Lord" (Prov. 18:22).

When our Lord was here on earth, He put His seal of blessing upon marriage by attending a wedding in Cana of Galilee. He even performed His first miracle there, the changing of water into wine for the wedding guests.

The Apostle Paul when instructing young Timothy in the work of the ministry, warned "that in the latter times some shall depart

from the faith . . . forbidding to marry" (1 Tim. 4:1 and 3). There are certain religions and cults which teach that their ministers or priests are more holy when they do not marry. Christian Science, for instance, speaks of marriage as something to be endured until, as Mary Baker Eddy infers, mankind has risen above it. She says, "Marriage is the legal and moral provision for generation among the human kind. Until the spiritual creation is discerned intact, is apprehended and understood, and His kingdom is come as in the vision of the Apocalypse—where the corporeal sense of creation was cast out, and its spiritual sense was revealed from heaven—marriage will continue" (*Science and Health*, pg. 56, 1915 Ed., published by Allison V. Stewart).

Indeed, marriage will continue! It will continue because it is ordained of God! The writer to the Hebrews, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled" (Heb. 13:4). The depth of companionship between one man and one woman transcends all other earthly relationships. They are complete in each other. Thank God for marriage! "One of the good things that come of a true marriage is that there is one face on which changes come without your seeing them; or rather there is one face which you can still see the same, through all the shadows which years have gathered upon it" (G. Macdonald).

But the very Scripture which sets its seal upon sex in marriage, warns, "But whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Heb. 13:4).

Yet, on all sides in America, as we have seen, a hundred forces are luring our youth into sex sins. What, therefore, is the young man or woman to do? How can young people resist temptation and what is their incentive to do so?

### 4. The Temptation of Sex

Temptations are like tramps. Treat them kindly and they return, bringing others with them. There is only one sure way to resist temptation, and that way is made clear in the Scriptures:

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee . . . (1 Cor. 10:13, 14).

That is what God's Word says. Temptation is the lot of all men. But with that temptation, there is a way to escape. It's up to you to take the way, to flee.

Flee also youthful lusts (II Tim. 2:22).

Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body: but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body (I Cor. 6:18).

But thou, O man of God, flee these things (I Tim. 6:11).

We find in the Old Testament some splendid examples of young men who fled from lust. Joseph was the next to the youngest son of Jacob, the older of his two sons by his most beloved wife, Rachel. When Joseph was about seventeen years old, his older brothers were so jealous of him that they sold him to passing Midianite merchants for twenty pieces of silver. The Midianites in turn sold Joseph to Potiphar, a court at-

tendant of Pharaoh. Joseph held a high position in Potiphar's household, supervising his gardens, lands, fisheries and cattle.

Potiphar's wife was enamored with Joseph and she tempted him. But he answered her, "How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" and he fled! She was enraged and caught his outer garment as he ran and showed it to her husband, accusing Joseph of trying to rape her. Joseph was put in prison, but God honored him and brought him out of the prison, making him second in power to Pharaoh.

Another young man who resisted the temptations of the flesh was Daniel. When he was yet a young man he was carried captive to Babylon. As part of his training to be one of the King's courtiers, he was offered wine and meat from the King's table. But Daniel "purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself" (Dan. 1:8).

He asked permission to live on a simple diet of water and vegetables, such as peas and beans, for ten days. At the end of those ten days he and his companions who had gone on this limited diet, appeared "fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat" (Dan. 1:15). God honored Daniel's faithfulness and later he became Prime Minister over Babylon.

If you, young man and young woman, want to live up to God's standards for you, there are some things from which you are going to have to learn to flee.

### 5. Flee Licentious Literature

"You are what you read."

Just as the Bible becomes a part of you when you read it day after day, so, too, the reading of sex-ridden books will become a part of you when you read them.

The newsstands are piled high today with licentious, passion-filled books. Many of them have paper covers and are cheap in price as well as in content. Reading them leaves their impression on your mind.

In order to combat this blight on our nation, Christian bookstores have been opened all across the country. Search out the Christian book store of your community and find books to fill your mind with high ideals.

### 6. Flee Television

Probably television is the most prevalent temptation in the United States today because it is the handiest. The instrument is in many of our living rooms. All you have to do is turn a knob and on that screen comes a parade of temptations. Flee television because:

*TV Tempts You to Waste Your Life.*

I've had many a young person come to me and say, "I used to get my homework done and then I would read a couple of chapters in the Bible and pray before going to bed at night, but then the folks bought a TV set. And you know how the thing is. I get looking at one program and then another, and the first thing I know I don't get my homework done and I don't have time to pray and read the Word." That can happen to you too. Your spiritual life is blighted when you are tempted to spend time watching TV instead of reading God's Word.

*TV Tempts You to Defile Your Mind.*

There is much filth on TV. One Sunday night a couple of years ago I was sick and at home instead of out preaching. I had heard about a terrific comic on television so I decided to watch him to see why his rating was so high. For ten minutes I thought I had never seen anyone so funny in my life. His jokes were a lot of good clean fun, but then he had to tell a shady, double-meaning

story and I turned the set off. I thought to myself, why couldn't he offer something clean to youth? Why did he have to spoil his program with such smut?

Listening to and watching this filth is bound to degrade the mind and as our Lord said, "Those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile man" (Matt. 15:18-20).

Television is like a knife—it can be used for a right purpose and for a wrong purpose. My wife and I have taught our children how to use a knife rightly and I believe we have taught our children how to use radio and television rightly; to exercise judgment in deciding what they will watch.

*The answer to the temptation to waste your life* is found in prayer before God. On your knees covenant with the Lord to "put first things first." See to it that you do your necessary homework and housework before you turn on your television set, "The soul of the diligent shall be made fat" (Prov. 13:4).

*The answer to the temptation to defile your mind* will come easier when you have put television in its proper place. You will be spending less time watching the screen and, therefore, you will want to watch only the better programs. For there are some clean programs on TV: news, gospel programs, educational features and travel pictures. You must be as selective in your television watching as you are in every phase of your life. As the Psalmist said, "What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? . . . Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it" (Ps. 34:12, 14).

### 7. Flee Movies

There is not a great deal of difference between the temptations of television and that of movies. Many of the same people act in them. And many movies are run on television; so television is often just the beginning of motion pictures into your home. I have had experience with movies. I was converted when I was nineteen and started reading my Bible, but the coming of the Lord didn't seem real to me until I read a book named *In the Twinkling of an Eye*. When I started reading that book—I stayed up all night until I finished it.

The following Saturday night I called for my girl and we went to the movies, as we usually did. We had been there for maybe half an hour when there came on the screen some dirty, filthy stuff.

I broke out in a cold sweat and whispered, "Let's get out of here in a hurry."

"What's the matter?" she asked. "I'll tell you outside. No time now. Let's get out of here."

Whew! Outside I breathed some clean, fresh air, and thanked the Lord we were out of that place.

"What's the matter with you?" she kept asking.

"You know, Jesus may come tonight. I started thinking, suppose He were to come and find us sitting here, looking at that dirty, filthy stuff on the screen."

That was over twenty years ago and I haven't been back since! Scripture says, "Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (I John 3:3).

Of all the people I've met, and I've been in some thirty countries, I never met a group of people

*\*In the Twinkling of an Eye*, Sydney Watson—\$2.00 at all Christian bookstores, or order from Word of Life, Box 511, New York 8, New York.



## In This Issue

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who were more to be pitied than those in Hollywood. You know, in the fourth chapter of John the story is told of how the Lord Jesus met a beautiful woman, probably the most beautiful girl in Samaria. She was typical of many Hollywood women, having had five husbands and living with another man who wasn't her husband. The Lord Jesus did not criticize her and rip her apart because of her sensual life. Rather, He solved her problems by bringing her into a knowledge of the true worship of God and convinced her that He was Christ, the Messiah come in the flesh.

I dare say that many of the Hollywood crowd are like the Samaritan woman. Many a night she probably cried herself to sleep and then woke up in the middle of the night having nightmares. And so our modern women of Samaria go from one man to another. They are divorced and remarry and are not satisfied. That is why they take sleeping pills and some of them even commit suicide. They need your love and prayers. If you pray for them, maybe you can bring them to Christ, the only One who will solve their problems. The Bible says, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:7, 8).

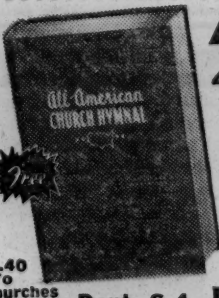
But while we are praying for the Hollywood crowd, let's not get soft and compromise with their sin. Even the world calls these moving picture houses "passion pits." And well they might, for the darkness of the theater and the picture on the screen tempt many a red-blooded, young person.

The matter of taking a stand against the theater isn't anything new. Abraham Kuyper, the Dutch theologian, in his *Lectures on Calvinism* (Eerdmans, 1931, pp. 75, 76), mentions the theater as being among those things shunned as evils by the historic Calvinists. He says, "Our fathers perceived excellently well that it was just these three: Dancing, Card-playing, and Theater-going, with which the world was madly in love . . . For this very reason, they recognized in these three the RUBICON which no true Calvinist could cross without sacrificing his earnestness to dangerous mirth, and the fear of the Lord too often far from spotless pleasures."

Think of that, way back in Calvin's day, out-and-out, born-again Christians took a stand against Dancing, Card-playing and Theater-going.

I am thankful that in recent years the Christian church has taken over, to some extent, the expressive medium of movies. Better produced Christian movies are being filmed at an ever increasing rate. Cooperate when your church, youth group, or some Christian organization shows a film. Go and take your friends. You will enjoy this clean type of picture.

(Second of six installments on "Sex and the Bible," by Jack Wyrzten. Will you see that young people read these articles? Watch for it next week. These are taken from the book by the same name, published by Zondervan, and used by permission. The whole book may be bought for \$1 from Sword of the Lord, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois. Enclose 15c for postage and handling.)



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## WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

**EVANGELIST DON BOYS** of Huntington, West Virginia, was recently with the Temple Baptist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana. Pastor Bob Stockton reports eleven were saved, and many rededicated their lives anew to the Lord. "Ours is just a small, new work, but God gave us good crowds on very cold nights," he states. The evangelist attended Moody Bible Institute, and Tennessee Temple Schools, one who stands against apostasy and does not compromise.

**EVANGELIST BOB PERSSON**, 339 Rice Drive, Beloit, Wisconsin, reports a good meeting with the First Conservative Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 22-25. During the meeting there

were 13 first-time decisions for Christ, 18 rededications, and \$2,500 was raised in the building fund drive to purchase church property for this new church. Rev. Leslie B. Knee is the Conservative Baptist State Missionary for Wisconsin and is supplying the pulpit until they get a regular pastor.

**EVANGELIST JOE MILLER**, 110 Maple Avenue, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, was February 3-8 with Evangel Baptist Church, Lewistown, Pennsylvania. Pastor Joseph F. MacMullen writes that the attendance was good, with delegations from other churches several nights. Eleven were saved during the revival, and four rededications were made. The pastor states also, "Evangel Church received a spiritual blessing as a result of these messages. Churches looking for an evangelist who is humble, and who understands the needs of the local church, should contact Brother Miller."

## Rivers of Living Water

(Continued from page 1)

that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring; and they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses. One shall say, I am the Lord's; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the Lord, and surname himself by the name of Israel."—Isaiah 44:3-5.

The people were in such a case in Jesus' day. Indeed, they were almost always in such a case. And the transaction just referred to was in some respects an emblem of their condition. They were supposed in that transaction to confess their need to God, to plead their thirst, and to appeal to Him for the fulfillment of the promise of His Spirit.

Jesus seizes upon this moment, for He is present at the feast. He stands and cries. He takes His position on some exalted place, and lifting His voice as it is not said He did at any other time, they hear Him say: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink!"

Jesus is the Very God, or else He is the greatest blasphemer and impostor who ever lived. This invitation on His part proves Him to be either the one or the other. Who hath power to pour out the

lieve" on Jesus, the answer is, to commit yourself to Jesus, to commit yourself to Him as your Saviour to be saved and as your Lord you would serve.

On one occasion in Jesus' ministry, earlier than this, there were many who believed on Him when they saw the miracles He did. But it is added that "Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men." We know what "commit" means in this case. We know that He did not trust Himself to these men, that He did not put Himself in their hands or "give Himself away" to them. But this word "commit" is in the Greek the same as our word "believe," and it might be rendered, "Jesus did not believe Himself unto them, for He knew what was in man." If, then, commit is to believe, to believe is to commit; and the man who commits himself to Jesus, who trusts himself, who gives himself away to Jesus as his Saviour and his Lord, that man "comes" to Jesus and "drinks" of Jesus and is blessed.

But what is the blessing he receives? It is not only a blessing for himself, but a blessing for others through himself—"Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." He himself shall be filled with blessing and shall overflow in blessing. By "his belly" is figuratively meant the source or fountain of his inner being. And by the "living water" is meant that supply of spiritual and eternal life which he possesses, and which he shall minister to all about.

Let us name some of these rivers of living water:

1. *There is the river of a Christian character.* I was once the pastor of a church where a certain man, past middle age, presented himself for membership on confession of his faith. The church committee was surprised, for they had known this man these many years as a scoffer at Christianity and an absentee from church. What had brought about this change, they asked. Watching the life of his neighbor, Mr. D—, he replied. Mr. D— was a Christian and a member of this church, who had lived in his proximity a long while. He had observed him going in and out, he had studied him in his home and in his business, until at length he was convinced Mr. D—'s religion was a religion he required, and his neighbor's God should be his God.

2. *There is the river of Christian testimony.* A woman I know was addicted to a certain habit injurious to her health, and detrimental to her spiritual life. One day she had a guest who had been similarly addicted, and who testified to a baptism of the Holy Ghost, as she described it, which had set her free. Her hostess listened without reply. But after she had bowed her visitor from the door, she turned, and leaning her head upon the newel post of the flight of stairs leading to her room, she simply said: "O God, Thou knowest I had rather have the Holy Ghost than longer to retain this habit. Fill me with Thy Spirit and set me free." It is now more than fifteen years ago, but from that moment she has been free.

3. *There is the river of Chris-*

*tian service.* In a beautiful town of western Pennsylvania, there dwells a man, the father of a family, who for years was a village "bum"—a "ne'er-do-well"; who spent his time and what little money he could earn in the saloon. He came to Jesus, and he "drank of that life-giving stream," and began at once to minister salvation to other souls. He took his Bible into the saloons, and getting permission, read its contents to some who were gathered there, and talked with them, and sometimes prayed with them, and has led, and is still leading, many other souls to the Saviour he has found.

4. *There is the river of Christian intercession.* Edward Judson, apostolic son of an apostolic father, Adoniram Judson, of missionary fame, tells this story of a revival he was conducting in a fashionable church of which he once was pastor. He said he was depending for results, not on the machinery of his organization, not on the money he had to spend, but on the prayers of a washerwoman living down under the hill, at whose house he and a few others were in the habit of meeting daily.

### The Secret of Blessing

But what is the philosophy of the situation? How can it be explained that such an one becomes a blessing? The answer is given in the text, for John affirms that these things were spoken by Jesus of the Holy Spirit, "which they that believed on Him were to receive." The Holy Spirit was not then given unto men as now He can be given, because that Jesus was not then glorified.

But Jesus now is glorified. He died, and rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And it is part of the reward of His obedience as the God-man that He sheds forth the Holy Ghost upon them that believe on Him (Acts 2:32, 33). It is the Holy Ghost, then, dwelling in a man, filling the man, overflowing the man, that makes that man a channel of spiritual blessing to all around him, in his life, his testimony, his service, his intercession, and a score of ways as rivers of living water.

My appeal is, first of all, to the Christian heart. You believe on Jesus Christ; you have come to Him, you say; you have drunk at His fountain of salvation. But I ask, Are you yourself a fountain? Are rivers of living water flowing forth from you? Do they refresh and bless your home, your church, your neighborhood, your social sphere, your business circle? Is there power in your Christian character and testimony? Are you serving the Lord Christ and are you winning souls to Him? Have you unction and access in supplication, and do you know how to bring down blessings from heaven for your life and the lives of others upon earth? If your reply is in the affirmative, I congratulate you and thank God for you. But if your reply is in the negative, I appeal to you to come to Jesus and drink of Him. I appeal to you to believe on Him again in a newer and a deeper sense. I appeal to you to commit yourself to Him as a saint as once you committed yourself to Him as a sinner. You have received the Holy Spirit or you could not have believed on Him, but it is one thing to have the Holy Spirit dwelling in you and another thing to have Him filling you.

But the appeal to the unsaved or unconverted is practically the same. Oh, the comprehending grace of that expression, "If any man thirst"—any man!

Ay, there's the rub! It is the condition, and only one—a thirst! There are some people who have little thirst, physical thirst, I mean just now. I am one of them. Placed at my hand upon the table is a glass of water. My neighbors have the same and drink of it. Sometimes they empty a second glass and a third, but mine will stand untouched. I grow alarmed, and say: "This cannot be right, this cannot be healthful, for hygienic reasons I ought to drink more water." But how can one be brought to drink who is not thirsty? I find the answer in a change of diet. There are certain things you feed upon that awaken thirst.

It is very much the same in

the spiritual realm. The bargain counter, and the card party, and the playhouse, and the dance hall, the story book and the Sunday paper—these things do not create soul-thirst nor lead men to desire Jesus Christ. The Word of God does this—that Word alone.

Do you know what is meant by "eating" the Word of God? Do you know what is meant by feeding on the heavenly manna? As you have listened to these words of Christ, have they created any thirst for Him? Do you desire this living water that He has to give? Would you be more holy? Would you have more power? Would you produce more fruit? Would you come to the secret of prevailing prayer? Then come to Jesus, and drink of

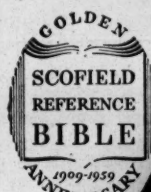
Him. Believe on Him today. Commit yourself to Him today, and let Him fill you with the Holy Spirit.

(From SALVATION FROM START TO FINISH, Moody Colportage library, 35c copy.)

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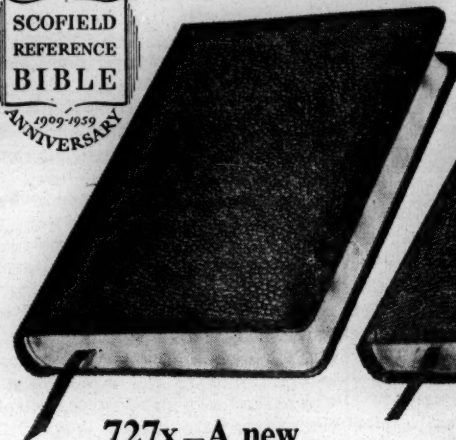
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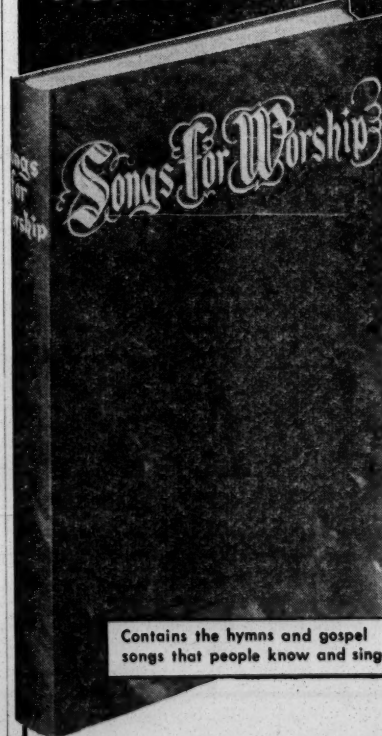
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## Putting Your Wages Into a Bag . . .

(Continued from page 1)

they gave all their time, thought, and care to their own material interests. "Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste?" cried the prophet.

As a judgment upon a forgetful and ungrateful people, God sent a drought upon the land. The heavens turned to brass, the earth became like iron. They sowed but did not reap. They plowed but saw no harvest. Their cattle perished. The harder they worked, the less they had, for God brought their labor to naught. He told them they were like a man who worked hard for wages only to put them into a bag with holes.

Now can you imagine a man working hard for a week, two weeks, three weeks, a whole month to earn wages, then deliberately putting them for safekeeping into a bag with holes in it? Surely the height of folly! Only a fool would do it.

For wages are part of a man's self. They represent sweat of brow or brain. He depends on his wages as security against present and future needs. It is expected that he will guard his treasure safely. A wise man will.

Every man, however, has a greater treasure than the wages he earns. Man's most priceless possession is his never-dying soul. That is why Jesus said, "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).

Since a man's soul is his greatest possession and the only thing he can take out of this world with him, it is his supreme duty to care for his soul, to guard it against loss. For according to the words of Christ, a man can save his soul or lose his soul. He can place the welfare of his soul, his hopes for the everlasting future, for safekeeping into a bag with holes, or he can commit his soul into the keeping of the Son of God. He can then say with Paul, "I am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him, against that day" (II Tim. 1:12).

Nothing less than this, my friend, and nothing else than this will ever give you satisfaction, security, and peace. That is your one most immediate need in this awesome hour of the world's history.

When an animal eats its fill, it lies down satisfied. That is all it needs and wants. But not man. Man made in the image of God needs more than bread to satisfy his soul. And to see men and women today leaving God out of their lives and trying to stifle the hunger in their soul with material things, is nothing else than putting life's wages into a bag with holes.

History abounds with proof that those who sought the true joy, and zest, and meaning of life in the pleasures and attractions of the world, apart from God, at the end of their quest found a famine in the far country. They found they had lost the very thing they had gone after. Their hopes for satisfaction for the present and security for the future had been put into a bag with holes. To all such God puts the question, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which satisfieth not?" (Isa. 55:2).

What, then, are some of those interests and attractions that deceive the soul in its quest for security and peace? One is

### The Accumulation of Wealth.

The pursuit of wealth has become a veritable passion with many in this money-mad age. It is true that riches give a certain satisfaction. Money provides opportunity for enjoyment, comfort, and ease. But wealth does not feed the man within. The more he makes, the more he wants. The heart hunger is still there, for money fails to appease it.

Wilbur Chapman tells of a man worth twenty million dollars who said to a friend of his, "All the money I ever earned and all the money I have in the bank to my credit has never given me peace."

Andrew Carnegie, the multimillionaire, was telling a group of friends about his boyhood days in

Scotland where money was a rarity. He owned a three penny piece—less than our dime. His sister offered to mind the cows all day if he would let her hold the coin in her hand till the end of the day. In the evening she would have to give it back.

That, my friend, is all that any man can do with the wealth he owns. At the end of his life he has to relinquish it.

A society lady of great wealth went to Gipsy Smith after a meeting, and although she had fine clothes, her own carriage, her own box at the opera, and a high place in fashionable society, she said, "I'm tired of it all. I want Jesus. These things do not satisfy me."

And of course they don't. The richest people are not the happiest people. The quest for riches as an end in itself is folly. Over the desk of every would-be-rich man I would like to place God's warning, "They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (I Tim. 6:9, 10).

"Many sorrows" is right. History proves it. Experience cries out that it is so. Ponder the following statement recently published:

In 1923 a group of the world's most successful financiers met at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. Present were:

The president of the largest independent steel company.

The president of the largest utility company.

The president of the New York Stock Exchange.

The greatest wheat speculator.

The greatest bear in Wall St.

A member of the President's cabinet.

The head of the world's greatest monopoly.

The president of the Bank of International Settlement.

Collectively, these tycoons controlled more wealth than there was in the United States Treasury. Surely if wealth brings peace and security, these men will have it. Twenty-five years later see what happened to them.

The president of the largest independent steel company, Charles Schwab, lived on borrowed money the last five years of his life, and died penniless.

The greatest wheat speculator, Arthur Cutten, died abroad, insolvent.

The president of the New York Stock Exchange, Richard Whitney, was released from Sing Sing.

The greatest bear in Wall Street, Jesse Livermore, committed suicide.

The member of the President's cabinet, Albert Fall, was pardoned from prison so he could die at home.

The head of the world's greatest monopoly, Ivor Kreuger, committed suicide.

The president of the Bank of International Settlement, Leon Fraser, committed suicide.

(Adapted from United Evangelical Action.)

Now all of these men had learned how to make money, but none of them had learned the true joy and meaning of life. Yet the same tragedy continues day after day. The recent suicide of Robert R. Young, Chairman of the Board of the New York Central Railroad, shocked the nation. Still vigorous in middle age and worth six million dollars, he seemed to have reached the top. Did he? His body fills a suicide's grave and his soul goes before God guilty of self-murder. What a terrible end to a talented human life! Young lamented in a poem he wrote the emptiness of his life. He found that although wealth promised much joy, much security, much peace, instead it is a deceiver. It gives only "many sorrows." It is a bag with holes.

The same thing is true of

### The Pursuit of Pleasure.

Multitudes today are trying to find satisfaction of soul in wine,

women, and song. And there is a fleshly thrill to be found in such things. The Bible admits that we can "enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." But mark you, my friend, it is only "for a season." Sinful pleasure promises gratification and happiness, but in the end fails to fulfill the contract. It also is a bag with holes.

Pleasures are like poppies spread—  
You seize the flower, the bloom is shed.  
Or like a snowflake on the river—  
One moment seen, then lost forever!

Ask any of its votaries if the pleasures of sin satisfied their thirst of soul for security and peace. They will tell you,

I tried the broken cisterns  
But, ah, the waters failed.  
E'en as I stooped to drink they fled  
And mocked me as I wailed.

Ask Byron the poet, a lover of pleasure, and who had the world at his feet:

He heard every trump of fame,  
Drank every cup of joy;  
Drank early, deeply drank.  
Drank draughts which common millions  
Might have quenched. Then died of thirst  
Because there was no more to drink.

And when still a young man scarcely thirty, Byron dipped his pen in the acid of sorrow and wrote,

My days are in the yellow leaf;  
The flowers, the fruit of love are gone.  
The worm, the canker, and the grief  
Are mine alone.

Yes, dear man or woman, pleasure promises to give the answer to life's meaning, but the momentary gratification does not last. All the Devil's pills are sugar-coated, but they soon turn to bitterness in the mouth. Satan gives the best wine first, and keeps the worst to the last.

Oh, how this needs to be stressed in our day when many millions—both young and old—are turning to alcohol for a thrill, or to find escape from the problems of life!

Upton Sinclair has written *The Cup of Fury* as a warning to his nation. It is a poignant record of despair and degradation caused by drink. His book is a history of his intimate friends, men and women such as Jack London, Sinclair Lewis, Isadora Duncan, O. Henry, and many others, gifted men and women whose "moderate drinking," as they considered it, became uncontrollable alcoholism.

"I was raised," writes Upton Sinclair, "in a virtual sea of liquor. First it was my father. Then no fewer than three of my uncles. Then one friend after another—all of them destroying themselves. I put before the public this tragic record of a half-century of genius, twisted and tortured by drink, and I ask that it be read with one fact always in the back of the reader's mind: *three out of four of today's college students are drinkers.*"

Surely one cannot read this tragic expose without realizing the deceitfulness of this chief among the pleasures of sin. The harmless looking social glass becomes a devouring flame. As the Bible describes it, "At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder" (Prov. 23:32). Like all the other fleshly pleasures of this life, it is a false refuge, a will-o'-the-wisp, a deceiver. The pursuit of pleasure is playing with your soul's destiny. It is like placing your wages into a bag with holes. Millions are doing this even while the world stands on the brink of disaster. My friend, are you?

### The Quest for Popularity

is yet another pursuit of the soul that leads to disillusionment and loss. Many are afraid to accept Christ and live for God lest they offend their circle of unbelieving friends. They put the favor of the crowd before the will of Christ. They try to find satisfaction in being popular, but here again the smile of the world does not satisfy the soul, nor prepare us for life here and hereafter.

If such is your case, dear reader, I would remind you that we are living in a very fickle world. Human friendship is a fickle thing.

Moreover, our friends and companions whom we seek to please rather than God, cannot answer for us at the judgment throne. When you stand there you will have to stand alone. The light of the throne will be directed full upon you. The eyes of the universe will be centered at that moment only upon you. The voice of the Judge will be addressed only toward you. And no man or group of men who kept you from Christ here, will ever be able to answer for you there, or take your punishment for you. Inasmuch as you have to stand alone before God, then I urge you to stand for God, alone if need be, here and now.

The voice of history tells us the favor of men is a bag with holes. Lord Cobham of England was applauded by the Court, and had \$35,000 a year, but was later cast off and lived on scraps stolen from the royal kitchen.

The Duke of Wellington, once idolized for his military triumphs, later refused to have his own iron fence mended because it had been broken by an angry crowd during political turmoil, and he left it in ruins that men might see how fickle a thing is human favor.

Mark Twain in the United States was universally admired. Did popularity satisfy him? At seventy-one he said, "I have had about enough of this world, and I wish I were out of it."

Lord Wolsely, after serving his king all his life, was cast off from royal patronage in his old age and said, "If I had served my God half as faithfully as I have served my king, He would not have cast me off like this."

Surely you can see, dear friend, how the smile of the world can easily change to a frown. What a poor refuge it is for the future need of your soul! Your unsaved friends, now keeping you from Christ, can give you no spiritual comfort when death comes into your home. They cannot give you peace when conscience rings its alarm. They cannot prepare you for that hour, soon to come upon you, when you will find yourself face to face with God. I earnestly urge upon you that the smile of this world is a very fickle thing. Popularity will never bring you to Heaven. It is a bag with holes.

Let me hold you a little longer while I tell you that dependence for soul security upon

### Infidel Views on the Bible

is nothing less than putting your treasure into a bag with holes.

A man said to me recently, "I have my own philosophy of life." This man had turned from the Bible truth that man's salvation depends on his faith in the atoning death of Christ, and had formulated a little private religion of his own. He was too proud, too enlightened, too original and different to believe the old-fashioned dogma that the Bible was all true. His home-made, do-it-yourself religion did not restrain him from telling a filthy story before I could leave his presence.

There is an article in the current Liberty Magazine entitled, "Why I Don't Believe in Heaven or Hell." The author discarded belief in the Bible doctrine of Hell because he had come to believe God was a benevolent deity. Because of his shallow thinking, he erroneously concluded that because God is a God of love, He will not punish sinners.

Now, my friend, if you are entertaining similar ideas, I would earnestly warn you that the sin that damns, the sin that puts a man beyond the pale of God's mercy, is unbelief. God's Word tells us, "He that believeth on him is not condemned. But he that believeth not is condemned—already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten son of God" (John 3:18). The one cardinal sin for which men and women will be eternally condemned is that they would not believe that the sacrifice of Calvary was made for them personally by the sinless Son of God.

Ponder carefully, I entreat you, the following words from the heart of God who loves you and desires your salvation: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

There you have God's tremendously important message to you in a nutshell. First, the fact of God's love for the whole world, therefore for you personally. Second, the death of God's Son as the proof of that love, and as the one only way whereby an infinitely holy God could righteously forgive your sins. Third, the simple condition whereby you may receive

(Continued on page 10)



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*I need wide spaces in my heart  
Where Faith and I can go apart  
And grow serene.  
Life gets so choked by busy living,  
Kindness so lost in fussy giving  
That Love slips by unseen.*

—Anonymous.

## Peter Restored From Backsliding

(Continued from page 1)

himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead. So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.—John 21:3-17.

### III. What Brought Peter Back Into Fellowship and Cleansing and Service?

We have traced some of those elements which led to Peter's downfall. And now let us rejoice in certain elements that brought Peter back to fellowship with God, back to cleansing for his backsliding, and back into the Christian ministry.

#### 1. The Lord Jesus Prayed for Peter, and Satan Could Not Have Him!

I have said that Peter did not lose his salvation. We are not now discussing how a man lost his salvation and had to be saved again. No, no! One of God's own children fell into sin, and lost fellowship with his father, and dishonored his Saviour. One of God's own children, called to wonderful work, for a moment turned aside from that labor. He lost his joy. He may have lost his assurance, too. But God did not give Peter up.

Jesus had guaranteed that Satan could not have Peter. "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat; But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not; and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren" (Luke 22:31, 32). Jesus prayed for Peter!

We are commanded to pray for one another. In putting on the whole armor of God we are admonished to pray always "for all saints" (Eph. 6:18). And I can think of nothing any saint of God can do for me better than to pray for me.

The other day in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, two fine Christian women came to me. They are readers of The Sword Of The Lord, they said. They have followed my ministry for years since my city-wide campaign in that city some eleven years before. And one said to me, "I want you to know that your name is mentioned aloud before the Lord every day in earnest prayer. We never forget to pray for you."

That made my heart sing. And of all the blessed resources and kindnesses which I value, this I prize the most, that some dear saints of God hold me up to God in prayer.

Years ago a quartet of lovely women who loved me used to sing for me in a big tabernacle in Dallas, Texas, the following song:

I need the pray'rs of those I love  
While trav'ling o'er life's rugged way,  
That I may true and faithful be,  
And live for Jesus ev'ry day.

I need the pray'rs of those I love,  
To help me in each trying hour.  
To bear my tempted soul to Him,  
That He may keep me by His pow'r.

I want my friends to pray for me,  
To hold me up on wings of faith,  
That I may walk the narrow way,  
Kept by our Father's glorious grace.

I want my friends to pray for me,  
To bear my tempted soul above  
And intercede with God for me;  
I need the pray'rs of those I love.

Yes, Christians need to pray for one another. But sometimes the prayers of the best Christians are not necessarily answered. One may pray wrongly. Or one may waver and not persist in prayer. But we have a high priest to pray for us whose prayers are always heard and always answered! That high priest prayed for Peter.

Do you ask me how I know Peter did not lose his salvation, and how I know that I have not, because of my many failures and sins, sometime lost my salvation? Well, here is the answer from Romans 8:34.

"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." Jesus makes intercession for us! He is the priest, the mediator, the intercessor who takes our part before God! Satan is the accuser, but Jesus is the defender. We are His and He will never let us go!

There is glory here for the believer.

"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and

find grace to help in time of need."—Heb. 4:14-16.

Yes, Jesus is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. He was tempted in every point like we are, yet He did not sin. He certainly knows how, out of His loving compassion, to take our part and intercede for us.

Oh, what a priest is Jesus! "But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:24, 25).

Yes, Jesus is able to save to the uttermost. He saved Peter through all the lying and cursing and swearing and denying and the renouncing of the ministry and going back into the fishing business! He saved Peter through all the discouragement and sorrow and misunderstanding, and even the failing of his faith and assurance. So He is able to save Peter and me and you even "to the uttermost... seeing he ever liveth to make intercession."

Was Peter faithful? Oh, no. And neither have I been faithful nor have you many a time. But here is our security. "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself." God said in the Old Testament that He is married to the backslider (Jer. 3:14). And Jesus told Peter that He could not give him up. He would not let Peter go. Jesus prayed for Peter, and His prayer, of course, was answered, as His prayer always is for every feeble saint!

Yes, the fact that Jesus prayed made certain that Peter could be restored to fellowship and service and that Satan would not have him.

Oh, Satan sifted Peter and Peter lost some of the brag, some of the self-confidence, but he himself was not lost.

#### 2. Peter Had a New Nature, Born of God, That Could Not Be Content Away From Christ

Here is a wonderful thing. As Jesus was committed to Peter, so there was something in Peter committed to the Lord Jesus. It was not only that Peter was counted righteous for Jesus' sake, but some of that righteousness was imparted to Peter and put in his heart.

Over one simple sentence in this account in Luke 22:62, I have wept with joy. Oh, it is a sad verse, but it is exceeding joyful. "And Peter went out, and wept bitterly."

That proves to me that Peter did not want to sin. He was distressed and heartbroken because he had done wrong.

Later when Jesus came to the seaside and miraculously caused them to get a net full of great fish, when they had fished all night in vain, around the morning breakfast camp fire Peter said to Jesus, "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee." And then he said it again, and then he said the third time, "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee" (John 21:15-17). Peter was grieved in his heart. He knew that the dear Lord Jesus saw what was in his troubled and penitent heart. Peter had loved Jesus before and offered to die for Him. Now he loved Him still. And Jesus in the same passage tells Peter that one glad triumphant day Peter will die as a martyr for this same Saviour he loves so much.

I am saying that Peter had a new nature.

Lot had the same thing. He went down to Sodom where he had no business being. He kept company with wicked men and called them brethren. For business reasons, I suppose, Lot lived in Sodom and let his town and his family go to Hell. But there is more to the story than appears on the surface. For II Peter 2:7, 8 tells us that God "...delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked. For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds." And then the Scripture says about Lot, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations...." You see, here Lot is called a just man, a righteous man. We are told that he had a righteous soul, and that he was a godly man. And

we learn that that righteous soul within Lot grieved and was troubled day by day over his bad associations and over his failure and sin. Yes, the child of God has a new nature that will find no peace in sin.

David knew that too.

Had I lived back in David's time and had I known that he had led into sin the wife of a dear friend and after the adultery had murdered that friend to keep the first sin secret, I would have felt holy indignation against David. Doubtless I would have counted him a wicked, unconverted man. I can imagine that someone said, "That psalm-singing hypocrite! 'The Lord is my shepherd,' he says and he goes to adultery and murder. He has fooled others but he cannot fool me. He is a wicked man against God!"

So someone may have thought. But they would be wrong. And if you will read the fifty-first Psalm you will find out how badly wrong they were. For David cried out, "My sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight." And David prayed to be cleansed from blood guiltiness. He pleaded, "Take not thy holy spirit from me." He begged God to renew a right spirit within him. He wanted to be cleansed so he could teach transgressors God's way and win souls. That heartbroken cry of David shows how a Christian feels when he becomes conscious of his sin and failure. Oh, how I have read it many times and made that my prayer. There is something in the heart of a Christian that is never satisfied with sin.

A preacher, a man who talked more about the water of baptism than he did the blood of Calvary, a man who knew the letter, but sadly I fear did not know much of the spirit of the Gospel, once said to me, "If I believed as you do, that a man could be saved and then he would be kept by God's power, I would get saved and then I would go and have my fill of sin and do everything I pleased!"

But I answered him, "If you do not already have your fill of sin, then you do not have the salvation I have and the Saviour I have."

Once Dr. H. C. Morrison, that grand Holiness Methodist preacher, editor of the *Pentecostal Herald*, was asked the question, "Dr. Morrison, have you gotten to where you cannot sin?" I suppose that the question was rather lighthearted.

But that godly man said most earnestly, "No, but I have got to where I cannot enjoy sin." Well,

I do not preach or believe in the present-day eradication of the carnal nature. I have never found myself to be sinless, as much as I would like to be. I do not claim that I have no carnal nature. But, thank God, I have already reached the place where I do not enjoy sin. And so had Peter. He went out and wept bitterly over his failure and sin.

First John 3:9 says, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." Does that mean that no saved person ever sins? No, I think it means that the one who is born of God, the new nature not the old nature, does not sin. As Paul was inspired to say it in Romans 7:17, "Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me." The new nature does not sin, cannot sin because it is born of God. And oh, how the new nature grieves at being tied to the old sinful nature. But there is in every Christian the divine nature. We are born of God. We are partakers of His nature. The Spirit of God dwells in our bodies. A really born-again Christian cannot remain content in sin. So Peter wept. That new man within Peter helped to bring him back to fellowship.

#### 3. God's Circumstances: Rooster and Fish Help Peter to Come Back

God controlled the circumstances to bring Peter back to fellowship and cleansing and service. God used the rooster's crowing. The divine record said, "And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And Peter went out, and wept bitterly" (Luke 22:60-62). There was a divine connection. When Peter denied the Saviour the third time the cock crew. Immediately Peter was smitten in heart, remembering what Jesus said. And lo, at that moment Jesus, before the Sanhedrin, was looking beyond the crowd to him, Peter! Then Peter remembered the warning and went out and wept. I feel sure that the Lord Jesus not only foretold when the cock would crow, but told the cock when to crow, and he did. It is wonderful that "the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Ps. 24:1).

When Cain killed his brother Abel God said to him, "The voice

(Continued on page 11)

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(use coupon page 8)



SWORD OF THE LORD PUBLISHERS

Wheaton, Illinois



# Putting Your Wages Into a Bag . . .

(Continued from page 7)

ceive the benefits of Christ's death for you—by believing on Him as your own personal Saviour.

Now if you do not accept this revelation as truth, if you do not agree that Heaven or Hell, everlasting blessedness or everlasting misery, depends on your believing God's message to you, then you are guilty of this crowning sin, the sin of unbelief. And unbelief is infidelity.

For all the personal ideas that men may have and which you,

my friend, may hold, if they are contrary to God's Word, are simply and solely infidelity. An infidel is not necessarily one who openly raves and rants against the Bible. An infidel is anyone who denies the truth of the Bible. Unbelief, whether blatant or refined, is infidelity. And I will ask you this: Does unbelief in the Bible satisfy you? Does infidelity help men to fight and win the battles of life? Does unbelief bring men the peace their heart longs for? Have you

ever known a happy and contented infidel? I never have.

Strauss, the German unbeliever, when dying said to his daughter, "This is the last of me. Now we separate. I sink into nothing."

Hume, the infidel philosopher, said as he neared his end on this earth, "I am like a man who has run on rocks and quicksands, and yet I am putting out to sea in the same leaky and weather-battered craft." No hope, no security, no peace from his unbelief. It seemed to satisfy in life but not when the test came.

Hume led his own mother out into the dreary wilderness of unbelief where his intellectual pride

had led him, and on her deathbed she said to him, "You have taken away my faith in God, my confidence in His Word, my hope of salvation through His Son, and now, on the borderline of eternity what can you offer to help me?"

My friend, what could he offer her? His own unbelief had left him desolate. It had deceived him. It had proved to be a bag with holes.

In one of the lectures of Ingersoll he says frankly, "I am like a man adrift on a raft without rudder or compass. I know not whence I came, or whither I go."

Dr. Talmage tells of a man who had rejected Christianity and thought it all trash. When he came to die he was in the sweat of a great agony, and his wife said, "We had better have some prayer."

"Mary, not a breath of that," he said. "The lightest word of prayer would roll back on me like rocks on a drowning man. I have come to the hour of test. I had a chance and I forfeited it. I believed in a liar and he has left me in the lurch. Mary, bring me Tom Paine, that book that I swore by and lived by, and pitch it in the fire. Let it burn, and burn as I myself shall soon burn."

And then, with the foam on his lip and with his hands tossing wildly in the air, he cried out, "Blackness of darkness! Oh, my God, too late!"

Do you think, my friend, the picture is overdrawn? Listen: I led a farmer out in the Canadian West to Jesus-Christ. He had been a big, rough, swearing unbeliever who seldom went inside a church. When I asked him why he had so suddenly and unexpectedly turned to Christ, he told me he had just attended the deathbed of his infidel brother and the scene around that deathbed was so terrible that he decided to get saved immediately.

Tell me, O man, O woman, soon to meet God, where are you placing your hopes for eternity? Jesus said in Luke 12:33, "Provide yourselves bags that wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not." That soul of yours, your greatest treasure, you yourself, will never die. Somewhere you will live forever. Where will it be? Into whose care and keeping are you trusting your soul's welfare for the everlasting future?

Is it in your own ideas of who God is, and what He is? What He will do, and what He will not do? Is it for puffy man to decide what an infinitely holy and omnipotent God will do and will not do with those who have wickedly insulted Him by rejecting His crucified Son?

Or are you depending on your good intentions to get you into Heaven? Someday you mean to be saved. You intend to turn to God at some future and convenient time. I warn you that also is a bag with holes. Multitudes are languishing in Hell today who lived and died in the mere intention of one day accepting Christ, but they never did it.

Is it your morality on which you depend? I tell you if you had never once sinned in all your life, yet are rejecting Christ, you are guilty of the one cardinal sin for which every unbeliever will be condemned.

Is it in one of the false religions of our day that you are putting your trust? They are traps set

by Satan to snare unwary souls. Christian Science, Mormonism, Unity, Jehovah's Witnesses—all bags with holes, as their poor deluded followers will find out when everlastingly too late.

Ask them if they are trusting God's Word alone, or man's word. Jesus said in John 12:48, "He that receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." The Bible, dear reader, is the one only judge, the one final and authoritative test. God has said, "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it" (Deut. 4:2). See how they have added to it. Mrs. Eddy's *Key to the Scriptures*, Joseph Smith's Mormon Bible, Jehovah's Witnesses new bible—all false refuges, all soul-deceivers, all bags with holes.

Believe me, aye, believe God Himself when He tells you there is only one Bible, one atonement, one sacrifice, one justification, one sure hope, one only dependable place for the safekeeping of your soul: that place is Christ. Wise is the man or woman who commits the keeping of his or her soul unto Him, as unto a faithful Creator. He will never fail you, never deceive you, never disappoint you. He will keep that which you have committed unto Him against that eventful day when time will end and eternity begin. Every other refuge is a bag with holes.

And now, dear friend unsaved, long prayed for by loved ones and Christian friends, long striven with by God's blessed Spirit, ask yourself in the light of all I have said in this personal appeal if there is any good reason, any just reason, why you should longer set your will against receiving Christ as your Saviour. Surely you have not determined to enter the next world unprepared to meet God.

I appeal, then, to you by the value of your never-dying soul, by the graciousness of Christ, by the blood of His cross shed for you, by the emptiness of sin's pleasures, by the condemnation pronounced upon all unbelief, by the glories of Heaven and by the eternal wrath from which God wants to save you—I appeal to you to arouse from your indifference or unbelief and ask Christ to come into your heart this very moment. Never, never will you regret it. All Heaven will be on your side. Everything right and good will be on your side. The joy of forgiveness will flood your soul and give you peace of mind and heart. You will have a foretaste of Heaven here below, and then Heaven itself for eternity hereafter.

## Decide for Christ Now

You have read Evangelist John Linton's sermon on "Putting Your Wages Into a Bag With Holes." If you are unconverted, I beg you in Jesus' name to repent of your sins, trust Jesus Christ to save you, step out openly for Christ today! If you will make that wonderful decision saying an eternal yes to Jesus Christ, by which we mean that you here and now take Christ as your own Saviour and depend upon Him, give Him your heart forever, will you sign the decision form below, copy it in a letter, and mail it at once?

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor  
SWORD OF THE LORD  
Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:  
I have read Brother Linton's sermon on "Putting Your Wages Into a Bag With Holes." I know that sin, in the long run, cannot pay. It must be punished. I know I am a lost sinner who needs Jesus. So here and now I repent of my sins. I trust Jesus to forgive me. I give Him my heart forever. He promised "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). So now I come in my heart to depend upon the Lord Jesus Christ, to receive Him into my heart, to count Him my Saviour. This moment I trust Christ to save me and I will set out to live for Him and will claim Him openly as my Saviour.

Please tell Brother Linton, and write me a letter of encouragement and help.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# "Great Chapters of the Bible"

## The Book of Ruth

Note: All Scriptural clues are from the book of Ruth unless another reference is given.

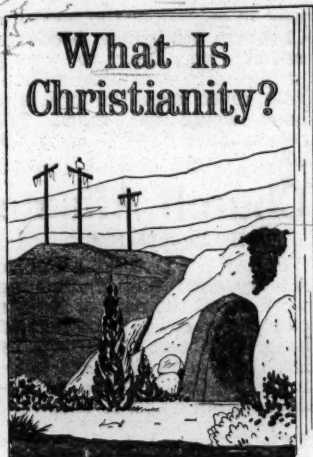
- Clues Across**  
1 and 3 "Thy people shall be my people, and \_\_\_\_\_ my God"  
6 "He \_\_\_\_\_ be unto thee a restorer of thy life"  
11 "\_\_\_\_\_, such a one! turn aside"  
12 man who captured Kenath (Num. 32:42)  
13 a forerunner of Christ (Matt. 1:7) (same as Abijah)  
14 "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy \_\_\_\_\_" Matt. 11  
15 "\_\_\_\_\_ went on the way to return unto the land of Judah"  
17 "I am too \_\_\_\_\_ to have an husband"  
18 "David himself followed the \_\_\_\_\_" II Sam. 3:31  
20 "Thy people shall \_\_\_\_\_ my people"  
21 and 22 "and thy God \_\_\_\_\_"  
23 first two letters of third son of Adam (Gen. 4:25) through whom Christ came  
25 meaning, "My God" Mark 15:34  
26 land to which Elimelech and Naomi fled during famine in Judah  
27 "My head with \_\_\_\_\_ thou didst not anoint" Luke 7  
28 affectionate term for father  
29 a son of Bebai (Ezra 10:28)  
30 "The Lord grant you that ye may find rest; each of you in the house of her \_\_\_\_\_"  
34 first and last letters of a name for Satan, (Isa. 14:12)  
35 famous volcano in Sicily  
36 "I sought for a man among them, that should make up the \_\_\_\_\_" Ezek. 22  
38 part of clothing covering arm  
40 "Blessed be \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord, who hath not left off his kindness"  
42 "He shall make even a speedy \_\_\_\_\_ of all them that dwell" Zeph. 1  
44 a wicked man whom the Lord slew (Num. 26:19)  
45 "It was about \_\_\_\_\_ ephah of barley"  
47 "I will \_\_\_\_\_ to thee all that thou requirest"
- Clues Down**  
48 Ruth's first husband  
49 "And God created . . . every living creature that \_\_\_\_\_" Gen. 1  
1 "Then went Boaz up to \_\_\_\_\_ gate"  
2 same as 11 across  
3 "Know that the Lord hath set apart him that is \_\_\_\_\_" Psa. 4  
4 son of Ruth and Boaz  
5 "\_\_\_\_\_ shall judge his people" Gen. 49  
7 "Ye that love the Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ evil" Psa. 97:10  
8 Initials for: father of Nahshon father of Obed father of Ram father of Amminadab  
9 "\_\_\_\_\_ down until the morning"  
10 "a woman \_\_\_\_\_ at his feet"  
12 mother-in-law of Ruth  
16 a snake-like fish with slimy skin  
18 second husband of Ruth  
19 brother of Ishma (I Chron. 4:3)  
20 home town of Boaz  
22 "Let me now \_\_\_\_\_ to the field, and glean ears of corn" a man whose children came out of captivity from Babylon (Neh. 7:47)  
24 husband of Naomi  
26 "Now this was the \_\_\_\_\_ in former time in Israel concerning redeeming"  
27 grandfather of David  
28 "His violent dealing shall come down upon his own \_\_\_\_\_" Psa. 7  
31 city out of which God called Abraham (Gen. 15)  
32 "Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of \_\_\_\_\_" I Sam. 1  
33 great grand-child of Ruth and Boaz  
37 period of time  
39 another name for Esau (Gen. 25:30)  
41 same as 37 down  
43 New Testament name for Noah (Matt. 24:37)  
46 "There is \_\_\_\_\_ difference: For all have sinned" Rom. 3

# Free!

for correct, prompt answers to  
**Puzzle Number 9**

## What Is Christianity?

By G. Christian Weiss



In his Introduction, the author says, "Suppose someone who had never heard of the Christian religion and did not know what a Christian is, or what he believes should confront you with the question, 'Sir, or Madam, What is this religion called "Christianity"? What would your reply be?' The purpose of this booklet is to give a satisfactory biblical answer. That the author does!"

In addition to the Introduction, where terms are defined, the 63-page booklet is comprised of the following chapters: (1) Christianity Demands That We Believe Something; (2) Christianity Demands That We Experience Something; (3) Christianity Demands That We Do Something; and (4) What Is a Christian?

## THE RULES

1. Fill in the empty blanks according to the clues given. Answers must be complete and correct.

2. PRINT (not write) your name and address in the blank below the puzzle. (Please include country in foreign addresses.) This coupon will serve as your address label for the envelope containing your prize. Mail to: PUZZLE EDITOR, THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of the paper, you may print (not more than three inches wide) on a separate sheet of paper your name and address, and the answers according to the clue numbers given. Entries will not be returned.

3. In order for you to receive the booklet, *What Is Christianity?*, your entry must be postmarked by midnight, March 9, 1959. If your paper arrives after the deadline date, please place the date of arrival on the entry. The answer to Puzzle Number 9 will appear in the March 20 issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

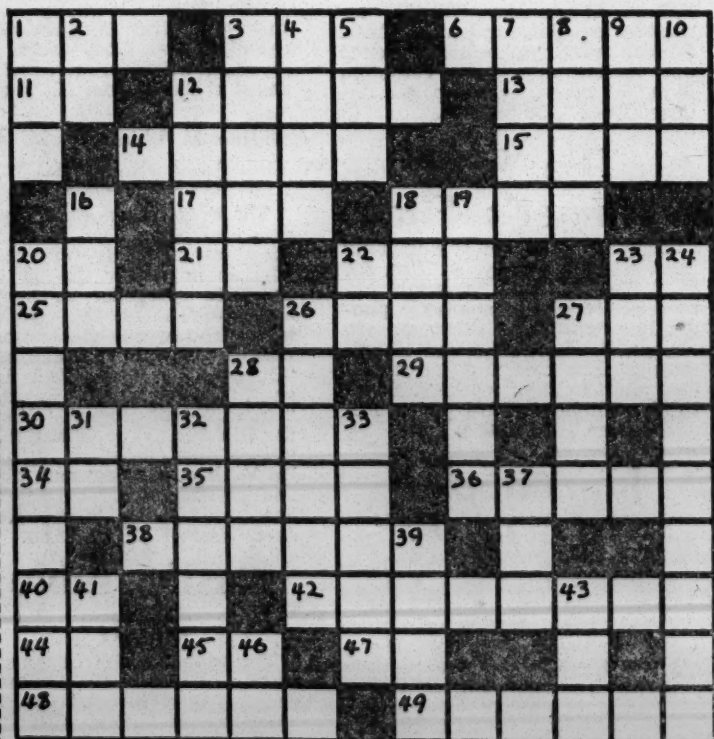
4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along with the weekly prize. *Save these coupons!* They are important! At the end of the year those who have forty-eight coupons will receive a large type, clothbound Scofield Reference Bible. Please remember that the coupons which you have are the only record of your correct entries. It will be your responsibility to keep the coupons. In addition, note that coupons may not be exchanged with one another. The winning of

## Answer to Puzzle No. 6

THY GOD SHALL  
HO NOBAH ABIA  
E LADEN THEY  
E OLD BIER  
BE MY GOD SE  
ELOI MOAB OIL  
T PA ZABBAI  
HUSBAND SE M  
LR ETNA HEDGE  
E SLEEVE R L  
HE I RIDDANCE  
ER AN DO O C  
MAHLON MOVETH

Deadline: March 9, 1959

Puzzle No. 9



Mail to: Puzzle Editor, Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois  
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(Cut along dotted lines)



## Peter Restored From Backsliding

(Continued from page 8)

of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground" (Gen. 4:10). We are told that when God sent Barak and Deborah to drive out Sisera and his hosts, "The stars in their courses fought against Sisera" (Judg. 5:20).

The wicked Jewish elders and Pharisees were dismayed when little children cried out at the triumphal entry of Jesus, "Hosanna to the son of David." So they urged Jesus to have these be quiet. But Jesus answered, "If these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out" (Luke 19:40).

God often used animals. Don't you remember that God let Balaam's ass talk to him and rebuke the disobedient prophet? (Num. 22:25). And when they brought Jesus, according to His instructions, an ass's colt on which never a man had sat, the donkey willingly, gladly obeyed the wish of Jesus and walked sedately along the street while the people shouted, "Hosanna to the son of David."

God had ravens to feed Elijah. He would have no trouble having a rooster crow to warn a preacher and bring the preacher to forsake his sin!

Well, as the twenty-first chapter of John tells us, Peter has quit the ministry. No doubt he thought, "No one would want to hear me now. I have cursed and sworn and denied the Saviour. I am a disgrace. I guess the Lord would not want me to go on preaching after I have done so wickedly. Well, I have a family to support; my mother-in-law lives with me. The only business I know is fishing. So I will go fishing again."

The other apostles volunteered to go with him and so they went back to the Sea of Galilee.

But they fished all night and caught not a fish. Do you know why? I think the Lord Jesus called to all the fish in the lake and told them to go into some hidden cove and so avoid the net until this preacher could learn that it is a poor, sorry business running away from God and trying to make a living in fishing when one is called to preach! Yes, and it is bad to be writing insurance or selling automobiles or making Masonic lectures or teaching school when God has called one to preach the Gospel! And all the fishes were glad to help God teach a preacher this lesson!

Did not Jesus once before instruct a fish where to go to find a golden coin that had been dropped overboard from some ship, and instruct him to hold the coin in his mouth and to go to a certain place and get on the hook which Peter let down? (Matt. 17:27).

Jesus came to the seaside and told the disciples in that sweet voice that so mystified them and yet charmed them (since they did not at once recognize him), "Let down the net on the other side." Then the dear Lord Jesus spoke in some mystic language that fish understood and they rushed to crowd into the net—153 great ones! Oh, I am sure that the fish were glad to please their Creator, to call back a wandering child.

And in the great haul of fish, Peter, after John's suggestion, recognized the Saviour and swam ashore to see Him and to be restored to fellowship and to be recommissioned as a gospel preacher and apostle!

It is wonderful how God uses circumstances. On a cloudy day, driving from Dallas, Texas, to Chicago, we had prayed that God would help me to win a man that day. Then, unwittingly, I took a wrong turn in Oklahoma which would go fifty miles out of my way, but found that God had done it to bring me the answer of a fervent prayer and to lead a soul to Christ. When I stopped at the filling station and found a hungry-hearted man, I led him to the Saviour. Then we went back to our highway and on our way rejoicing.

A circumstance once moved Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., to leave the hotel in Atlanta where he had reservations, and go unannounced to Birmingham, Alabama, a day earlier than he had planned. That night the hotel burned in Atlanta and many died in the wing of the hotel where Dr. Jones' room had been!

An Indonesian man wrote me the other day. He had become convinced that he was a communist. He made his plans to go to Russia for training as a communist leader. When he went to get on the plane, there at the steps was a copy of my little booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" He took it up, strangely cut to the heart. He stopped to meditate and turned back and abandoned the trip to Moscow, for which he already had an airline ticket. He read the booklet and turned to Christ and wrote to tell me about it. Thank God for that careless hand that dropped the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" and for the merciful God who directed the circumstance.

A motorcycle dispatch rider in France in World War I racing along a road near the front sud-

denly found himself a target for machine-gun fire. God had been dealing with him, but suddenly he came to crisis of decision. "Yes, Lord, I will preach! I'll preach!" he said.

God uses circumstances for our good. He may take a man's baby home to Heaven to win the man's soul. He may send a rooster to remind a preacher of his sin. He may keep fish out of the net or put them in the net to work out His plan. Thank God that all the circumstances are under God's control and He uses them for the good of His children and to bring the wanderer home, as He did with Peter.

### 4. Jesus Personally Sought Out Peter

Jesus had promised Peter, "... I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." But Jesus had not only prayed to the Father, Jesus personally saw to it that Peter was pressed back into service, was brought to confession and cleansing.

When Peter prayed and the rooster crew, Peter looked at Jesus, "and the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter." How those sweet, sad eyes of the Saviour haunted Peter! Jesus would not let him go.

When Jesus was arisen from the dead, He had the angel say, "Tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you." Oh, those sweet words, "And Peter." Jesus did not name James or John or Matthew or Nathanael or Andrew or anyone else but Peter! Poor backslidden Peter. Jesus loved him and wanted him and sent him special word.

It may well be that if the angel had simply said, "Go... tell his disciples," Peter would have said, "Well, I am not His disciple any longer. That is what I told the others. I cursed and swore and denied Him and now Jesus wouldn't call me one of His disciples." So Jesus took particular pains to send the word, "Tell my disciples and Peter."

Then Jesus Himself went to Galilee as He had promised. He came to the lakeside. He made a fire on the beach and there He began to cook fish and bread. But Peter must know that Jesus had work for him to do particularly. So "Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught. Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three..."

Here is something sweetly amusing. And in John 21:6 the Scripture says, "They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes." All the men in the boat were not able to draw the net before. But now when Jesus wanted some of those fish, Peter himself went up and drew the net to land full of great fishes—an hundred and fifty and three! Oh, he could pull as much as ten men now, if Jesus wanted him again to serve!

And then Jesus asked the question directly. He said nothing about Peter's long training as a disciple, or of the vows before made and broken. He simply brought up the question, "Peter, do you really love Me? Do you love Me more than you love the fishing business?"

Peter had no boasts now, but he said simply, "Lord, thou knowest that I love thee." Peter still loved Jesus! Peter still had the new heart! And so Peter was saved and if he loved Jesus, then he had a right to serve Jesus! So Jesus plainly told him, "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep!"

Oh, Jesus sought Peter personally and called him back into the glad service of the Gospel.

### 5. Peter Had to Come Back to Serve God Because He Had an Uncanceled Call

In Romans 11:29 we are told, "For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." So, the context instructs us, God has not forsaken the Jews as a nation. Individual Jews have rejected Him and have gone to Hell, and some others will do so. But as a nation God had called Israel for a special purpose and God has never canceled that call. "The gifts and calling of God are without repentance!"

So when God saves a sinner He

keeps Him saved. So when God calls a preacher, God does not change His mind.

Peter had a calling of God. To him were given the keys of the kingdom in the sense that he should make the great announcement at Jerusalem to the Jews, and to Cornelius and his household as Gentiles. I say, God had plans for Peter that had never been canceled, commands and promises that had never been rescinded. I am glad that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever! I am glad that He is long-suffering and of tender mercy. I am glad that He will not always chide, neither will He keep His anger forever. I am glad that He gives people a new chance.

I remember so gladly how though Jonah rebelled and ran away to sea, God dealt with him and used the circumstances again, including a whale, to bring Jonah to his senses and bring him back to land; and then again the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee." Thank God He called again.

God made great promises to Jacob. And Jacob made holy vows at Bethel which I fear he did not heed too well. He had promised, "This place shall be to me the house of God," and yet some thirty years went by before Jacob ever visited that place again to worship God. But God called him to come back to Bethel again and Jacob did.

You see, God brought Peter back because God doesn't change His mind. His love is not fickle. His promises are unchangeable. And so Peter had an uncanceled call and God would not let him go.

Someone reads this perhaps who is out of the will of God. I do not doubt that if Jesus should ask you the question you would say too, "Lord, thou knowest that I love thee." Then turn your back on wandering and confess and forsake your sin and come again to the place of blessing! Take up the cross again. The God who would not give up Jonah or Jacob or Peter, the God who is married to the backslider, and the dear Saviour who has prayed for every child of God and will not let us go, wants you back in His service.

Here is a wonderfully sweet promise: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Now in a moment I hope you will go down on your knees or go to some secret place alone and there make honest confession of sin and failure. Perhaps you will weep as Peter did, perhaps not. But at any rate, confess your failing, and offer yourself again to the service God has for you. O backslider in heart, the Lord Jesus prays for you and will not let you go! You are dear to God. You are bought with a price.

You will remember that the prodigal son had been in a far country. He had wasted his substance. He had sinned grievously, but how gladly the father saw him a great way off and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him! And the great feast and music and dancing at the home of the returned prodigal were no sweeter than will be the joy in your own heart and the bells ringing in Heaven if you, dear backslider, will come back to the Father's arms and back to the Saviour's side and work today!

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### The Unfinished Prayer

"Now I lay me—say it, darling,"  
"Lay me," lisped the tiny lips  
Of my daughter, kneeling, bending,  
O'er her folded finger-tips.

"Down to sleep." "To sleep," she murmured;  
And the curly head bent low.  
"I pray the Lord," I gently added—  
"You can say it all, I know."

"P'ay de Lord," the words came faintly—  
Fainter still, "my soul to teep."  
Then the tired head fairly nodded,  
And my child was fast asleep.

But the dewy eyes half opened  
When I clasped her to my breast,  
And the dear voice gently whispered—  
"Mamma, God knows all de yest."

Oh! the trusting, sweet confiding  
Of the child-heart! Would that I  
Thus might trust my Heavenly  
Father,  
He who hears' my feeblest cry!

—Col. Thomas H. Ayers.

From *Inspirational & Devotional Verse*  
Compiled by Dr. Bob Jones, Jr.

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## Here Comes Sword Letter Month

(Continued from page 1)

this and running until April 1 is THE SWORD annual Letter Month.

### Free With Every Subscription, Book Order, or Gift During March

We have a lovely gift for you, for everyone who sends in a cash subscription, book order, or gift during March or from now till April 1.

You may have the editor's new book, *Predestined for Hell? No!*, 103 pages, ten chapters, regular price 75c;

Or you may have the beautiful four-color book, big 6 x 9 pages, *Body-Building Recipes* by Lora Lee Parrott, retail price 50c. Either of these is yours absolutely free with every cash subscription, book order, or gift to THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

The book on predestination by Editor John R. Rice is, we believe, greatly needed. We believe it is unanswerable. It answers from the Bible the questions about predestination, foreordination, election. It shows beyond any doubt for honest Bible believers who take the Bible at face value that God does not predestinate anybody to go to Hell so that he cannot be saved. Every preacher, Sunday School teacher, and lay Christian too needs this book in order to keep straight in doctrine, and in order to be a good soul-winner.

The book, *Body-Building Recipes*, is not only a fine cookbook prepared by a lovely Christian woman, but it has interspersed all through it quotations from great men of God, devotional thoughts and helps for the Christian. We believe it will be wonderful and popular and we have purchased thousands of copies to give away during March Letter Month.

### Tremendous Bargains in Sword Books During Letter Month

We are not selling books to make money. Every day we get letters telling of lives transformed, of souls saved, of Christians stirred up to be true to Christ, to win souls, of Christians delivered from traps of modernism and false cults. If we had been selling books to make money, then this editor would not have put back into the work through the years considerably more than \$100,000 which he could properly and legitimately have taken for himself and his family as royalty on these books which are sold so widely around the world. No, we are not in the business to make money, but to do good. So we have taken this occasion to put on a big sale, hoping to get out the largest volume of Christian literature we have ever distributed in one of our annual Letter Months. Don't you want to save one third on these Christian books which you need for yourself and others?

Be sure to look over the ads in this paper. Or better yet, see last week's two-page ad describing in detail these bargains. Order the things you need now, while there is such tremendous savings.

On these books we have tremendous stocks. We want to get them out. We want you to save money. And we want your letters. Therefore we make these remarkable offers during Letter Month book sale.

And remember that with every cash subscription, book order, or gift sent to THE SWORD OF THE LORD during Letter Month, you will receive free Editor John R. Rice's book, *Predestined for Hell? No!*, 103 pages, ten chapters of Bible teaching on predestination, election, foreordination, and showing that every sinner is called and everyone can be saved and no one need go to Hell. It answers the follies of hyper-Calvinism, and those who make Calvin's doctrine of predestination an excuse for not winning souls. Or you may have free, if you prefer, Mrs. Lora Lee Parrott's book, *Body-Building Recipes*, beautiful four-color cover with thirty-two big 6 x 9 inch pages, nearly two hundred recipes. Appetizing and often new recipes for soups, sandwiches, meats, pastries, etc., and interspersed with fine devotional thoughts and spiritual truths for Christians. It is really a Christian cookbook to be prized by every housekeeper and cook.

Either of these two books, I say, is offered free with each cash subscription, book order, or gift to THE SWORD OF THE LORD during Letter Month.

### If You Have Been Blessed, Say So; If You Are Our Friend, Prove It

Honest people who have been blessed should express their thanks. Those who have received help from THE SWORD OF THE LORD should back this work with their gifts. "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather?" (I Cor. 9:11, 12). And again the Scripture says, "Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel" (I Cor. 9:13, 14).

Again, if you belong to the Lord and are burdened about getting out the Gospel, would it not be right and proper for you to help get out the Gospel by sending subscriptions? Are we wrong to ask that Bible-believing Christians who know of the work of THE SWORD OF THE LORD and have been blessed by it should help us to bring these blessings to others?

We believe that there is no mission cause in the world more unselfishly and earnestly administered to get out the Gospel to everyone possible, and to bless every Christian possible and help them to live right, and win souls, than THE SWORD OF THE LORD. It is time to write THE SWORD OF THE LORD to tell us of blessings received, or to tell us if you stand with us in defense of the faith. It is time to write THE SWORD OF THE LORD to send that subscription, to order those books, or to send a gift for the work as the dear Lord leads.

The mails go both ways. We visit you through the mail fifty-two times a year in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. How much prayer and burden, how much meditation and waiting on God in the night seasons, how much reading and Bible study before each issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD goes out to more than 22,000 preachers, 3,000 foreign missionaries, to Christians in every state in the Union and to some 90 foreign countries! Now you to whom we come through the mail ought to write us a letter, ought you not?

Somebody gets THE SWORD OF THE LORD and you say, "But I did not pay for it; I did not order it!" No, and you didn't order Jesus Christ to come from Heaven and die on the cross to keep you out of Hell. God did that without your invitation because He loved you. You didn't ask it, you didn't seek it, but is that a good reason for not thanking God for Jesus Christ? And if someone loved you and paid for THE SWORD OF THE LORD for you, then would it not

be a sensible Christian attitude to be grateful, and to get such blessings as you can, and to write and say so?

Remember, subscriptions are to be sent \$3 a year, two years for \$5, three years for \$7. Add 50c per year to Canadian and foreign subscriptions for extra postage which we are required to pay.

Now is a good time for thousands to renew their subscriptions for three years and save \$2 over the yearly rate. Now is the time to subscribe for others. And now is the time to load up on good books. And surely for hundreds and perhaps thousands this is a good time to send that offering for the Sword Free Literature Fund, for the Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund, for our nation-wide broadcast, "The Voice of Revival," or to put capital investment to retire long-term loans and make the Sword of the Lord independent.

Now each one must find what he should write. But please write your letter. And write it soon.

### Prizes for the Best Letters; Will Be Published in THE SWORD

For the letters of greatest interest we will send a credit slip of \$3. We hope to pick out about five of the best letters each week, and publish them in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. We want to hear of souls saved, of churches established, of young men surrendered to preach, of people delivered from modernism and false cults, of families that have started a family altar through THE SWORD OF THE

## Three Gates

If I am tempted to reveal  
A tale someone to me has told  
About another, let it pass,  
Before I speak, three gates of gold.

Three narrow gates: First, is it true?

Then, is it needful? In my mind  
Give truthful answer, and the next  
Is last and narrowest, Is it kind?

And if, to reach my lips at last,  
It passes through these gateways, three,

Then I may tell the tale, nor fear  
What the result of speech may be.

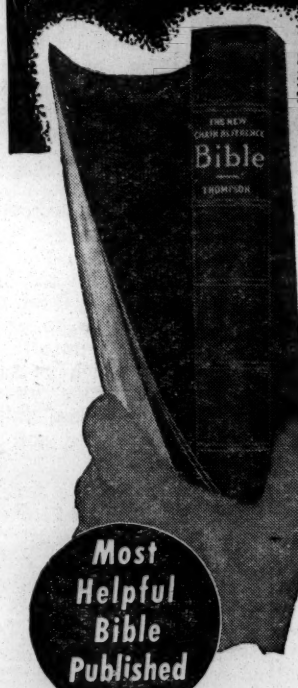
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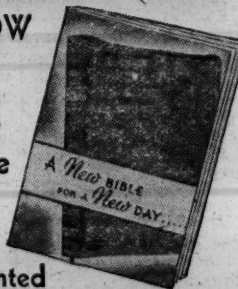
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